

## SEMINAR NOTICE

**Topic:** Will India and its states achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3? : Role of National Health Mission

**Speaker (s):** Dr. Suresh Sharma and Ms. Anupama George

**Chair:** Prof. Indrani Gupta, Institute of Economic Growth

The seminar details are as follows:

**Date & time:** **Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 3.30 p.m.**

**Venue:** A.M. Khusro Room  
Institute of Economic Growth  
University of Delhi Enclave  
North Campus, Delhi-110 007

All are welcome.

**(Sabyasachi Kar)**  
**Seminar Convenor**

### Abstract

The Millennium Development Goals which were initiated in 2000 also played an important role in streamlining efforts to reduce child mortality. Consequently a remarkable reduction in the number of child deaths was experienced in the country. However, this achievement was not commensurate for neonatal deaths. Neonatal mortality actually rose as a proportion of child mortality. Globally, India is still behind countries like Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Nepal in reducing the neonatal mortality rates. In light of this, the National Health Mission Scheme initiated in 2005 has within its ambit, programs like the Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness. The National Health Mission scheme has been instrumental in reducing neonatal mortality nevertheless, as a proportion of child mortality it still remains high. Therefore, the advent of the Sustainable Development Goal 3, has again set a goal for India for the next 15 years with a specific target of reducing neonatal mortality to 12 per 1000 live births.

Projection of NMR for India and 56 other countries till 2030 shows that India will only reach NMR of 18 per 1000 live births and will lag behind countries like Ethiopia, Mozambique and Tajikistan. Another set of NMR projections were carried out for selected Indian states using the Lives Saved Tool (LiST) which includes the role of coverage parameters covered under NHM in reducing neonatal mortality. The study found that states like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, West Bengal and Uttarakhand will be able to achieve neonatal mortality rate of 12. Proper implementation and supervision of the existing neonatal health programs, national extension of state-level programs proven to reduce neonatal deaths, detailed and timely reporting of causes of death of children below the age of 29 days, proper training and sufficient and timely receipt of remuneration of grass root level health professionals to maintain motivation level and spreading awareness among populations in remote areas about such schemes are the plausible recommendations to avert neonatal deaths taking place in India and helping India in achieving the SDG3 and at providing greater survival chances to its future generation.

*Keywords: Neonatal Mortality, Projection, Sustainable Development Goal 3, National Health Mission.*