



**CENTRE
FOR AMBITION**
AN INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICES
ESTD. 2004

DECLINE IN MALE STERILISATION (VASECTOMY) RATES IN INDIA

1. Historical Context :

- India launched a national family planning programme in 1952.
- Male sterilisation (vasectomy) accounted for 80.5% of sterilisation procedures in the late 1960s, but its prevalence has significantly declined.
- Recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4 and NFHS-5) data shows vasectomy rates stagnating at 0.3%, compared to 37.9% for female sterilisation.

2. Gender Disparity:

- Women bear almost the entire burden of sterilisation, conflicting with National Health Policy 2017, which aimed to raise male sterilisation rates to 30%.
- This imbalance poses a challenge to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 on gender equality.

3. Ground Realities:

- **Social Beliefs:** Sterilisation is perceived as a woman's responsibility.
- **Misconceptions:** Fears of reduced libido and family opposition hinder male participation.
- **Economic Concerns:** Men avoid vasectomies due to wage loss, despite cash incentives.

4. Key Challenges:

- Illiteracy, male egos, and lack of awareness.
- Shortage of trained healthcare providers in rural areas.

5. Proposed Solutions:

- **Awareness Campaigns:** Sensitisation in schools, social behaviour change initiatives, and destigmatising vasectomies.
- **Increased Incentives:** Offer higher cash incentives to encourage vasectomy adoption.

Learning from Global Practices:

- **South Korea:** High uptake due to gender equality.
- **Bhutan:** Vasectomy camps and social acceptability.
- **Brazil:** Mass media awareness campaigns raised prevalence from 0.8% to 5%.
- **Strengthening Healthcare:** Train more professionals, promote no-scalpel vasectomies, and ensure access to quality services.

6. Conclusion :

- Promoting male sterilisation requires integrated efforts involving policy, education, incentives, and service delivery to address societal and systemic barriers.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following goals is hindered by the gender disparity in sterilisation procedures in India?

- A. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3
- B. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4
- C. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5
- D. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10

Answer: C

2. Which of the following countries has the highest prevalence of vasectomy due to progressive societal norms?

- A. Bhutan
- B. Brazil
- C. South Korea
- D. India

Answer: C

Source : The Hindu Editorial 30/11/2024

 **+91-9219631474 | 9720999654**

www.centreforambition.com

AGRA OFFICE - 29 Kailash Vihar, Khandari Bypass Behind St. Conrad's School, Agra (UP)
GREATER NOIDA OFFICE- 43 Knowledge Park 1 Near Pari Chowk , Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, (UP)