

## HEALTH OF INDIA'S RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES



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#### Issue

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released the report of a survey titled 'Health in India', whose main objective was to gather basic quantitative information on India's health sector.

#### Background

The report details aspects of the role played by government and private sector facilities, and also contain health information for separate religious communities, including estimates of their susceptibility to ailments.

#### Details

- The Zoroastrian community remains the most susceptible to ailments. Results from the National Sample Survey (NSS)'s 75th Round released show that 31.1 per cent of Zoroastrians reported that they were suffering from an ailment at the time the survey was conducted.
- This number for other communities is: Jains, 11.2 per cent; Sikhs 11 per cent; Christians 10.5 per cent; Muslims 8.1 per cent; Buddhists 8 per cent; and Hindus 7.2 per cent.
- The survey defines ailment as any deviation from a person's state of physical and mental well-being. The 'Proportion of Persons who Responded as Ailing', or PPRA, in a 15-day period when they were approached by the surveyors, were registered as those suffering from ailments.
- The survey shows that women remain more susceptible to suffering from ailments than men. In rural India 6.1 per cent of males said that they were suffering from ailments, while 7.6 per cent of rural women said the same. While 8.2 per cent of urban males said that they were sick, 10 per cent

urban females said the same.

- Around 7.5 percent of Indians reported that they were suffering from ailments, as per the survey. The difference in people suffering from ailments in rural and urban India was stark.
- While in rural India only 6.8 per cent said that they were suffering from an ailment, this number in urban India was 9.1 per cent.



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