

Russian experts say only about one-third of infants healthy
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Moscow, 10 July: Only 30 per cent of infants in Russia can be considered healthy. The incidence of disease among infants has increased by 27 per cent over the past five years, Deputy Health Minister Olga Sharapova said at the children and medicines forum today.

Medical experts are especially concerned about the health of children and teenagers, she said. Every 12th infant is born underweight, which is 30-40 per cent more often than five years ago. There are cases of serious illness diagnosed in children below 14 years of age, including diabetes and bone and muscle tissue disorders.

The number of disabled children has risen by 155,000 over the same period [five years]. There are currently about 617,000 disabled children and teenagers.

A total of 90 per cent of school students are afflicted by some disorder, a deputy head of the State Duma's health committee, Tatyana Yakovleva, said at the forum...