

Constant efforts are made by the Railways to improve the standard of catering services. The Zonal Railways carry out frequent inspections to check any deterioration in the standard of services provided by the licencees. Complaints received are duly enquired into and contractors found responsible are taken up suitably.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Only the new catering services are managed by licencees.

[English]

National Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) Programme

598. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some time back a five-year action plan for achieving the goal of eliminating of Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) by 2000 A.D. had been drawn up and the blue-print thereof was sent to the Union and the State Governments for action;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry recently convened a meeting in collaboration with the UNESCO to review the present status of the aforesaid programme in India to identify the specific action to be taken to achieve the goal of the Universal Salt Iodisation by the year-end;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether by now all the State Governments have banned the use of non-iodised salt in their respective jurisdiction to safeguard against the diseases resulted from the use of non-iodised salt i.e. thyride, etc.;

(f) if not, the latest position with regard to the States which have not effectively banned the use of non-iodised salt; and

(g) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure total ban of non-iodised salt by all the States?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) and (b). The Third Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare held in July, 1993, resolved that the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme should be accorded high priority as major National Health Programme by all States/UTs. All the States/UTs have accordingly been intimated and guidelines were issued.

(c) and (d). A meeting on Universal access to Iodised Salt by 1995 was organised on 14th July, 1995 in Collaboration with UNICEF to *inter-alia* prepare a Plan of Action for achieving the goal of elimination of IDD by 2000 AD and to review the original strategies to ensure advocacy for the programme.

(e) and (f). There is no ban in States of Goa, Kerala and Union Territory of Pondicherry. There is partial ban in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The ban notification issued by Orissa State is kept in abeyance.

(g) The States/Union Territories have been advised to ban sale of non-iodised salt in their respective States/Union Territories.

Light Combat Aircraft Project

599. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether USA has threatened to pull out of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) project;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to continue the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE-RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise. The project is continuing satisfactorily. After design, development, fabrication and integration, the first LCA has already been rolled-out from assembly hanger on 17 November 1995. After detailed ground tests, the first LCA flight test is expected in last quarter of 1996.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industrial Parks

600. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some industrial parks of international standard in collaboration with the private sector;