

The Committee may consult experts and record such evidence as it may consider necessary."

The above Resolution of the Council is under consideration of the Government of India.

New Children's Hospitals in Delhi

707. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government are considering to open new Children's Hospitals in Delhi in view of the overcrowding and ever-lasting waiting list of child patients in Kalawati Saran, Safdarjung and Irwin Hospitals?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): No, Sir. However, during the III Five Year Plan period, Children's Wing of different Hospitals are being expanded. About 140 Paediatric Medical beds are proposed to be added in the Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, New Delhi.

There are at present 68 beds for children at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Hospitals, New Delhi also. In the new hospital building under construction 94 beds will be provided for children. There will also be a large outpatient Department for Children in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital when the new building is completed by the end of 1963.

In the expansion programme of the Willingdon Hospital, New Delhi, also more beds for children will be provided. Irwin Hospital will also expand their children's Wing.

Eye Diseases

708. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether W.H.O. has sanctioned some pilot projects for the research of various eye diseases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). A trachoma pilot project has been established at Aligarh under the administrative control of the Indian Council of Medical Research, in collaboration with the W.H.O., for the epidemiological study of Trachoma and development of a suitable and simple method for its treatment. A survey of the incidence of this disease has been completed in all the States in the country excepting Uttar Pradesh where it is still continuing. A statistical map of India on Trachoma is under preparation.

Family Planning

709. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the States where extraordinary increase has been noticed in the population growth during 1961-62 and the reasons for such increase; and

(b) whether any intensive schemes of Family Planning are going to be started in these areas?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The census of India of 1961 shows an increase of population above the average in the following States:—

1. Assam (34.45 per cent).
2. Gujarat (26.88 per cent).
3. Kerala (24.76 per cent).
4. Madhya Pradesh 24.17 per cent).
5. Maharashtra (23.60 per cent).
6. Punjab (25.86 per cent).
7. Rajasthan (26.20 per cent).
8. West Bengal (32.79 per cent).

The reasons for the increase, however, are not fully known and are probably several. There is, however, need for popularisation of family planning in view of the large general increase, and the important measures to promote family planning which are being taken throughout the country are as follows:—

(i) Pilot scheme for appointment of male and female depot holders on an

honorarium of Rs. 7 per month for distribution of contraceptives in selected villages. The State Governments have been requested to consider the desirability of extending the pilot scheme in the States.

(ii) Pilot scheme for training and appointment of Dais on an honorarium of Rs. 10 per month for motivating people and distribution of contraceptives to them in their respective localities has been approved. Dais are expected to play a notable part in popularising family planning practices among the people in their areas and the cooperation of the dais in extending the programme particularly in rural areas is likely to prove useful.

(iii) Establishment of family planning clinics in each primary health centre and its three sub-centres on an approved pattern of financial assistance.

(iv) Establishment of urban family planning clinics on an approved pattern of financial assistance which has been liberalised.

(v) Provision of mobile family planning clinics in the States, on an approved pattern of assistance.

(vi) 100 per cent financial assistance has been offered to the State Governments for the provision of facilities for sterilisation operations in the district hospitals and also in the taluk/tehsil hospitals in the States subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,500 per annum in each case and for training of persons in medical teaching institutions in the technique of sterilisation operations and mobile surgical units.

(vii) Family Planning exhibition sets have been procured and supplied to State Governments for conducting family planning exhibitions in districts in the States.

(viii) A number of posters and pamphlets have been printed and films have been produced.

(ix) Honorary Family Planning Education Leaders have been appointed in the States. Proposals for such

appointments in the remaining districts are under consideration.

(x) 75 per cent Central subsidy has also been offered to the States for the appointment of a District Family Planning Officer in each district.

(xi) Contraceptives are distributed free and at subsidised rates. In rural areas they are distributed free irrespective of income.

(xii) 100 per cent financial assistance is offered to Local Bodies and Voluntary Organisations for family planning services.

(xiii) Research in demographic, motivational, and biological fields is being carried out.

Primary Health Centres

710. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of Primary Health Centres which have remained without any doctor for more than three months in 1961-62?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): The information is as follows:

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Primary Health Centre which remained without doctors for more than 3 months in 1961-62.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Uttar Pradesh	Information not available.
2.	Maharashtra	36
3.	Gujarat	23
4.	Andhra Pradesh	48
5.	Madras	Information not available
6.	Rajasthan	Do.
7.	Mysore	33
8	Kerala	Nil
9	Madhya Pradesh	16
10	Bihar	105
11	Orissa	8
12	West Bengal	Nil
13	Punjab	19
14	Assam	2