

-Identification of 17 problem areas in respect of pollution level for taking concerted efforts to control the polluting sources;

-Identification of 18 categories of major water and air polluting industries for priority action to control pollution from there through a time bound programme.

(b) There has been a steady progress in the control of pollution. There has been improvement in the Ganga river water quality.

(c) and (d). The effectiveness of pollution control is regularly monitored by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards and corrective measures are taken when necessary.

(e) Does not arise.

Population Control

178. SHRI BHAGEYGOBARDHAN:
SHRI JANARDHAN PRASAD
MISRA:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:
SHRI G.M.C.BALAYOGI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of growth of population has not come down to the targetted levels during the preceeding two Five Year plan period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target proposed to be fixed for the year 1992-93;

(d) the steps now being taken to curb the current growth rate to the regard level; and

(e) the main factors for the successful implementation of the programme of population control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K.THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No specific targets were fixed the Sixth Five Year Plan for Birth Rate and Death Rate. Seventh Five Year Plan targets were, *inter-alia*, fixed in terms of Birth and Death Rates which implies that the National Growth Rate of population is obtained as difference between birth and death rates. According to the Seventh Five Year Plan target, the Birth Rate and Death Rate for all India were to reach 29.1 per 1000 population and 10.4 per thousand population respectively which implied achieving a natural growth rate of 1.87% by the year 1990. Based on Sample Registration System estimates of Birth Rate and Death Rate for the year 1990, the Natural Growth Rate of population for India works out to 2.03%.

(b) The Growth Rate remains comparatively high, because of relatively steeper decline in Death Rate as compared to Birth Rate due to improvement in Public health measures and medical care. Decline in Birth Rate has not been commensurate.

(c) No targets in terms of growth rate is fixed on year to year basis.

(d) and (e). Besides Family Planning Programme, the decline in fertility depends upon female literacy, age at marriage of girls women's status and child survival. An action plan for giving the requisite thrust and dynamism to the Family Welfare Programme has been formulated. The action plan was unanimously endorsed in the conference of the ministers incharge of Health and Family Welfare held on 6-7th January, 1992. This action plan highlights the need for evolving a national consensus in support of the Family welfare Programme and to obtain the

willing participation of all sections of the society, cutting across political, religious and cultural differences. Other key features of the draft Action Plan include, improving the quality and outreach of family welfare services, special focus on 90 poor performing districts (Birth rate 39 per thousand population and above as per the 1991 Census), developing an innovative package of incentives/disincentives for promotion of small family norm, increasing the coverage of younger age couples through vigorous promotion of spacing methods, introduction of new contraceptives and improving the quality of contraceptives, strengthening family welfare schemes in urban areas especially in slum pockets, revitalising training activities of medical/para-medical personnel with emphasis on motivational and counselling aspects, sustaining the good work done under the Universal Immunization Programme and strengthening of other interventions for Maternal and Child Health Care, reorientation of information, education and communication efforts to focus on the quality of life issues and interpersonal communication, involving voluntary and non-governmental organisations in a big way to promote active community participation in the programme gearing up of the implementation machinery in the States/Union Territories and evolving high level inter-sectoral coordination mechanism at the national state and district levels.

Financial Assistance to voluntary organisations involved in NLM

179. SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA:
 SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:
 SHRI V.KRISHNA RAO:
 SHRIMATI GEETA
 MUKHERJEE:
 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
 PATEL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-

SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations and volunteers involved at present in the National Literacy Mission in the country;

(b) whether the Government have issued new guidelines regarding financial assistance to such voluntary organisations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received representations against these fresh guidelines; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) At present 148 voluntary agencies and 71 District Literacy Societies are involved in the National Literacy Mission. The number of volunteers involved are approximately 43 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The revised guidelines have emphasised formulation of projects which are area specific and time bound and for a compact and contiguous area with the aim of achieving total literacy within a period of 2-3 years. The teaching is totally volunteer based. The financial pattern is flexible as each agency can frame the proposal based on area-specific needs. The overall per learner cost is between Rs. 65/- to Rs. 100/- per person made literate. The main strategy in implementation include environment building, use of teaching/learning material based on Improved Pace & Content of Learning technique and Computerised Management System of the learning evaluation. It also aims at undertaking suitable