

to be conducted by the Samudayik Swasthya Anusandhan Foundation (Community Health Research Foundation) regarding the functioning of primary health centres;

(b) if so, the main findings of the study; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government with a view to improve the functioning of primary health centres and its attached sub-centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) In October, 1992 a study was entrusted to the Samudayik Swasthya Anusandhan Foundation (Foundation for Research in Community Health), Mumbai to cover five key topics based upon already published research in area of health care delivery.

(b) The main findings inter alia relate to inter-state differences in provision of human resources for health, preference of beneficiaries at different places, deficiencies in urban and rural areas etc.

(c) The proper functioning of Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres is a State responsibility. Under the Minimum Needs Programme, funds (State Sector) are earmarked for establishment and strengthening of Rural Health Infrastructure like Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres. The Central Government has been assisting the States in drawing up technical guidelines and extending financial assistance for implementing numerous programmes which are run through the primary health infrastructure. These include programmes for training of health workers, child survival and safe motherhood and disease control programmes like Malaria, Leprosy, Blindness, T.B., AIDS etc.

Sea Wall

*257. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have considered the proposal from the Government of Kerala to provide World Bank Assistance for protection of Sea Walls in Kerala in order to prevent land erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No such proposal for seeking World Bank assistance for protection of Seawalls in Kerala in order to prevent land erosion has been received from Government of Kerala.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Conference of Education Ministers

*258. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps taken so far to implement the decisions arrived at in the Conference of State Education Ministers held in August, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : The Conference of State Education Ministers held on August 10, 1996 in New Delhi decided to constitute a Committee of State Education Ministers under the Chairmanship of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia, Minister of State for Education to work out the modalities of the proposal for making the right to free and compulsory elementary education a Fundamental Right and to identify resources required to achieve universalisation of elementary education. It also decided that three major Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz., Computer literacy and studies in schools, Vocationalisation of secondary education and Promotion of Yoga would be transferred to the State Sector.

The committee of State Education Ministers has so far held three meetings and is expected to submit its report by January, 1997. For transfer to Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the States, the Planning Commission has been requested to work out entitlement of funds for the States.

Damage of National Highways/Bridges in A.P.

*259. SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL :
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss incurred due to damage done to National Highways/Bridges during the recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to repair these roads bridges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made any request for the release of Central special fund to repair damaged National Highways/bridges;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) During the recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh, extensive damages to the National Highway No. 5 & 18 have been reported. Detailed proposals for restoration are awaited from the State.

(b) to (f) For immediate restoration of the damages, a sum of Rs. 4.00 crores has been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Infant Mortality Rate

*260 PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

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

(a) the salient features of the programmes taken so far by the Government to bring down the infant mortality rate in the country;

(b) the achievements stating the comparative percentage of infant mortality rate in 1994, 1995 and 1996 (till-date);

(c) the names of the States, which continue to show unsatisfactory performance in improving the primitive living conditions in the backward areas, the environmental conditions and the health care centres;

(d) whether in view of the uncontrolled infant or mortality rate in the country, the Government propose to formulate a comprehensive policy in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme under implementation since 1992 seeks to reduce the infant mortality rate through immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections, prophylaxis against Vitamin 'A' deficiency and provision of essential newborn care.

(b) As per the Sample Registration System, the Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 110 per thousand live births in 1981 to 79 in 1992. The Infant Mortality Rate in 1994 and 1995 was 74. Infant Mortality Rate for 1996 is not available.

(c) Information regarding unsatisfactory performance in improving the primitive living conditions in the backward areas is not compiled at the central level. State-wise progress regarding establishment of Sub-centres, Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres is in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e). The interventions for reducing infant mortality under the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme are proposed to be continued and strengthened in the Reproductive and Child Health Programme to be launched in 1997-98.

STATEMENT

Progress of Establishment of Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres during 8th Plan (as per information available from States)

(upto 31.12.1995)

S.No.	State/UT	Sub-Centres		PHCs*		CHCs**	
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	165		300	-	160	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100		15	10	5	3
3.	Assam	80		245	90	15	19
4.	Bihar	3260		1078	Nil	75	1
5.	Goa	10	2	2	Nil	1	-
6.	Gujarat	0		82	47	25	24
7.	Haryana	0		0	3	40	21
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	55	67	53	5	15
9.	J & K	800		95	40	65	8
10.	Karnataka	1000		300	166	20	21
11.	Kerala	1556		72	51	31	-