

the Board is for a period of three years or till it is reconstituted, whichever is later. The Board, which was last reconstituted on 18th December, 1997, has the following five non-official members:—

- (1) Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, Ex-MP.
- (2) Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, Director, National Law School of India.
- (3) Dr. A.P. Mukherjee, IPS (Retd.)
- (4) Smt. Kim Gangte, General Secretary, Kuki Women Human Rights Organisation.
- (5) Shri Saeed Naqvi.

There is also a National Integration Council (NIC). The NIC was initially constituted in 1962 to review all matters pertaining to national integration and to make appropriate recommendations. The NIC consists of Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of all States/Union territories having Legislatures, representatives of political parties, media persons, eminent public figures, etc. A proposal to reconstitute the NIC is under consideration at present.

[Translation]

**Scheme to Improve the Standard  
of Living of Children**

\*3038. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start any scheme with the collaboration of UNICEF to improve the standard of living of children;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target set in this regard; and

(c) the total amount to be spent under the said scheme during the current financial year and the UNICEF assistance received so far for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) The Government of India and UNICEF collaboration is governed by the basic agreement signed between the Government and UNICEF in 1949

and it is implemented through the Master Plan of Operations. The Master Plan of Operation for the years 1999-2002 is being finalised in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

(c) The UNICEF Executive Board has approved a total not exceeding the equivalent of US\$ 120 million from UNICEF General Resources and US\$ 180.02 million from Supplementary Funds to support the programme activities described in the Master Plan of Operations 1999-2002.

[English]

**Grant for Rehabilitation Schemes**

3039. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the grant provided for cleanliness rehabilitation scheme is being properly utilised;

(b) if so, the details of the grant distributed and the expenditure made so far, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps being taken to speed up the specific programme of this scheme.

(e) the details of the instructions issued and the action taken in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have made any scheme to provide bank loan;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement is enclosed.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents is being revised to make the scheme more successful and the State/UT Governments are periodically advised to spend the unspent balance available with them under the said scheme.