

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3652
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2000
WORLD SUMMIT GOALS FOR CHILDREN
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the World Summit Goals for Children were set in 1990;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that we are still falling short of commitments made for improving child survival, growth and development and providing basic fundamental rights to children;
- (c) whether one-third of children in India have low birth weight and this figure is the highest in the world; and
- (d) the main reasons for not meeting the commitments made in the Summit?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) India has been able to show great progress in the achievement of some goals for improving child survival, growth and development and providing basic fundamental rights to children.
- (c) No, Sir. As per NFHS-II, the percentage of children born with low birth weights is 22.7. According to the State of World's Children Report, 2000, a publication of UNICEF, Bangladesh is having higher percentage than India among the Asian countries.
- (d) The main factors on account of which some of the Goals set by the World Summit for Children in 1990 have not been achieved include high population growth, poverty, female illiteracy, limited resources, and lack of awareness.