

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2675
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2001
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to implement two children norms in every State;
- (b) if so, the response of each State Government in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to promote family planning in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) : The Family Welfare Programme in India is voluntary and non-coercive in nature. It aims at ensuring that all facilities are in place and accurate information and counseling is at hand that will enable a couple to adopt the most appropriate family planning methods, best suited to them, according to their choice and without any compulsion.

The National Population Policy adopted by Government of India in February, 2000 after detailed consultations seeks to promote the small family norm.

The immediate objective of the National Population Policy is to address the unmet needs of contraception, health infrastructure, health personnel and to provide integrated service delivery for basic reproductive and child health care. The medium term objective is to bring the total fertility rate to replacement level by 2010, through vigorous implementation of inter sectoral operational strategies. The long term objective is to achieve a stable population by 2045, at a level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth, social development and environmental protection.

The Policy lists National Socio-demographic goals to be achieved by 2010. It also enumerates 12 strategic themes with a detailed action plan for each and 16 promotional and motivational measures that will ensure that Government facilitates the achievement of the small family norm.