

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:694

ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000

BUNGLING IN REPRODUCTION CHILD HEALTH PROJECT

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item Captioned `Bag borrow and Squander` appearing in the Hindu, dated December 20, 1999 on the alleged fraud in the execution of a World Bank Fund for Reproduction Child Health project in Punjab;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to probe into the reported deal; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the officials found guilty therein?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)

(a) Yes, Sir. The news items refers to the misutilisation of funds allocated for theWorld Bank assisted Reproductive and Child Health Sub-Project in Sangrur district, Punjab.The report emphasizes the non-observance of proper procedures in the purchase of medicines and equipment.

(b)& (c) The State Government conducted an enquiry and cancelled the supply orders placed for equipment and supplies.No payments were ever made in respect of these supply orders. Further investigations are in progress by the Vigilance Bureau, State Govt. of Punjab.