

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:251  
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002  
IODINE DEFICIENCY DISORDERS  
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether as per the report of Indian Coalition for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD), eight persons out of every hundred, suffer from goitre in the country;
- (b) if so, whether according to the ICCIDD statistics, out of 29 million babies born every year in the country, more than a lakh are likely to suffer from some form of IDD;
- (c) whether the Government have examined this report; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 251 FOR 20.3.2002

The Indian Coalition for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) do not have any report or published statistics in this regard. However, as per surveys conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research and other Health Institutions, out of 305 districts surveyed at different times in 28 States and 5 Union Territories, 252 districts are endemic where the prevalence of Iodine Deficiency Disorders is more than 10%.

In order to control the problem of Iodine Deficiency Disorders among all sections of the population in the country, the Government of India is implementing the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. So far, all the States/UTs, except the State of Kerala and Gujarat, have banned the sale of salt other than iodated salt in their entire State/UT. However, there is partial ban in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The use of iodated salt is being promoted in all the States/UTs through intensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities in association with Doordarshan, All India Radio, Song and Drama Division, Directorate of Field Publicity and the Directorate of Advertisement and Visual Publicity (DAVP). Beside this, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is also providing financial assistance to the States/UTs to take up health education activities at their own level depending upon the local needs.