

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:152
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
POPULATION CONTROL
CHADA SURESH REDDY

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

- (a) whether Kerala and Tamil Nadu have successfully brought down population growth rates;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by the Government in these States; and
- (c) the new thrust proposed to be adopted by the Union Government to control the population of the country?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Norms for financial assistance to all the States for implementation of various schemes under National Family Welfare Programme are the same. The political commitment in the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala for improved access to education and health services, including availability of contraception services, has enabled the State Government to bring down population growth.

(c) A comprehensive package of services relating to mother and child health, and contraception are being provided under the RCH Programme. Efforts are being made to make Family Welfare Programme a people's programme through increased involvement of the NGOs, Self Help Groups and members of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Intersectoral convergence for improving delivery of family welfare services at field levels is also being pursued. An Empowered Action Group has been constituted to address the unmet needs of the demographically weaker States. A Janani Suraksha Yojana is being launched in the country to address the issues of institutional delivery and promotion of sterilization. A National Commitment Campaign has been launched for generating greater political commitment for the Family Welfare Programme.