

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3479
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
NEW POPULATION POLICY
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to inforce the new population policy more vigorously in BIMARU states in the North;
- (b) if so, the special incentives reserved for states which have shown good results on population control policy measures so that they are encouraged to contain the population growth in future; and
- (c) the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a): Yes, Sir. To facilitate the attainment of the goals envisaged under the National Population Policy, Prime Minister has announced formation of an Empowered Action Group in the first meeting of the National Commission on Population held on 22nd July,2000.The Group will be charged with the responsibility of preparing area-specific programmes, with special emphasis on the States of Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, that have been lagging behind in containing population growth, to the manageable limits and will count for nearly half of country's population in the next two decades.

(b)&(c): A number of promotional and motivational measures are envisaged in the National Population Policy, 2000. Panchayats and Zila Parishads will be rewarded and honoured for their exemplary performance in universalizing the small family norm, achieving reduction in infant mortality rate and birth rate, and promoting literacy ;with completion of primary schooling. Further, it has recommended that under the 42nd Constitution Amendment, freeze of the number of seats to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, based on the 1971 Census till 2000, to be extended upto 2026 as a motivational measure, in order to enable all State governments to fearlessly and effectively pursue the agenda for population stabilisation contained in the Policy.