

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3251
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
OBESITY AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that various cases of obesity, hypertension and abnormal cholesterol levels exists among school children especially from the affluent sections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to provide medical facilities and medical check-up to these students in the schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) to (c) Education being a concurrent subject, school education primarily comes under the purview of the State Governments. Details regarding obesity, hypertension and abnormal cholesterol levels among school children are not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), which is an autonomous organization under this Ministry, has issued detailed instructions in November, 2006 to assess the body mass index of students and to inform the concerned parent in case the child is found overweight. There is also provision of two medical check-ups in a year for Kendriya Vidyalaya students. Parents are informed about serious ailments requiring treatments by specialists. In each of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV), which are run by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, another autonomous organization under this Ministry, a part time doctor, preferably from a nearby Government hospital, has been associated, who visits the school on regular intervals. Besides, a full time regular staff nurse has been provided in each JNV to look after the health of the students.