

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
STUDY ON CARDIO VASCULAR DISEASES
Jagannath Dr. M.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a recently released study by the Earth Institute of Columbia University, conducted with international collaborators in India, South Africa, Brazil and Russia, warns of rising incidence of death and disability due to cardiovascular diseases as reported in 'The Hindu' dated June 13, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up any study group to suggest measures to prevent and control these diseases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 FOR 7TH JULY, 2004

Cardiovascular diseases are a major cause of morbidity and mortality in the world today and will become the leading cause of death and disability worldwide by 2020. According to All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, a recently released study by the Earth Institute of Columbia University, conducted with international collaborators in India, South Africa, Brazil and Russia warns that rising rates of death and disability due to cardiovascular diseases will seriously affect productivity and impose economic burden on these countries. India will be the worst hit due to early deaths and disability with productive life-year losses due to deaths in the 35-64 year age group rising from 9.2 million in 2000 to 17.9 million in 2030. This increase is suggested to be linked to change in life-style such as decreased physical activity, change in food habits, increase in fat and sugar consumption, low intake of fiber and micronutrients (folic acid, antioxidants) etc. The Government is spreading health messages through electronic media to increase public health awareness about heart diseases and healthy living practices.

Government constituted a Working Group under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services for devising strategies and measures for prevention and control of various non-communicable diseases including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, stroke etc. to be implemented during the 10th Plan. However, the programme for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, stroke etc. could not be taken up within the Plan allocation of this Department.