

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1708
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

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

- (a) whether the family planning programme in the country have been successful as per the prescribed target fixed in this regard;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to reconsider the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b):- India was the first country in the world to launch a National Family Planning programme, emphasizing family planning to the extent necessary for reducing birth rates 'to stabilize the population at a level consistent with the requirement of national economy'.

The program has come a long way and currently Family Planning Program is being repositioned to not only achieve population stabilization but also to reduce maternal mortality and infant and child mortality.

While 14 states have already achieved the replacement level i.e. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 2.1, 12 states have TFR between 2.1 and 3 and 9 states (Bihar, UP, Rajasthan, MP, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and D&N Haveli) have TFR of more than 3.

A number of factors that include lack of adequate educational and vocational training opportunities for girls, social-cultural issues leading to early marriage and multiple pregnancies, poverty, etc. have an impact on population stabilisation programme.

(c) to (e):- Government does not propose to reconsider the scheme to stabilize the population growth in the country. However, the Government of India has been vigorously implementing the National Rural Health Mission launched in the year 2005 in line with the objective of addressing the issue of population stabilisation as envisaged by National Population Policy-2000, i.e. the need to simultaneously address issues of child survival, maternal health and contraception while increasing outreach and coverage of a comprehensive package of reproductive and child health services.