

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5965

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012

HYPOTHYROIDISM AMONG WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether there is a huge increase in the incidents of iodine deficiency and hypothyroidism among women and children in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Women and Child Development had requested the Ministry for early detection of this deficiency at the health check up camps with the provisions for its treatment;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Ministry; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b) No. The Iodine Deficiency Disorders including hypothyroidism have reduced significantly in the entire country. The resurveys conducted in various districts in the States/UTs have clearly demonstrated significant reduction in total goiter rate in range of 8% to 35% in the country.

(c) Yes.

(d) A letter was sent to Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Defence Research and Development Organization. They have informed that they have not developed a model for estimation of urinary iodine which can be used in periphery.

(e) In order to prevent & control Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Government of India has been implementing centrally assisted National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) in the country under the overall umbrella of NRHM for entire population wherein supply of iodated salt is an important component. Under the programme there are three levels of laboratory monitoring. Estimation of the iodine content of salt and urinary iodine excretion are primary level and Secondary level monitoring respectively being conducted in all States/UTs. The tertiary level monitoring includes thyroid function tests which are very limited and are being carried out at National reference laboratory and 4 regional laboratories in the country under the programme. Financial assistance is provided to all the States/UTs for establishment of IDD Cell and IDD monitoring laboratory, district IDD survey/resurvey and health education & publicity.