

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3765  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2009  
VISION THE RIGHT TO SIGHT  
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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government is supporting Vision 2020: the Right to Sight in the country, which is global initiative to eliminate avoidable blindness;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan prepared in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) : Vision 2020 is a global initiative to eliminate avoidable blindness. The National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is committed to the cause of reducing avoidable blindness to 0.3% by the year 2020.

The Action Plan under NPCB includes the following major initiatives:-

# Decentralized implementation of NPCB through State/District Health and Family Welfare Societies.

# Ensuring optimal utilization of Human Resources.

# Improving quality of services

# Preventive Eye care.

# Coverage of underserved areas for eye care services through public-private partnership.

# Development of eye care infrastructure.

# To make eye care comprehensive, besides cataract surgery, assistance for other eye diseases like diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma management, laser techniques, corneal transplantation, vitreo-retinal surgery, treatment of childhood blindness etc.

# Regular monitoring and evaluation.