

[English]

UNICEF Report re : Insufficient Nutrition, Health Care and Learning Opportunities to Children in India

*92. **SHRI B.V. DESAI** : Will the Minister of **SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that less than half of 270 million children in the country have access to an essential minimum of nutrition, health-care and learning opportunities according to UNICEF Report entitled "An analysis of the situation of children in India" ;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Government have examined the said Report made by the UNICEF ; and

(c) whether any time bound programme has been drawn up to improve the condition of children in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Several programmes have been taken up : Integrated Child Development Services to provide a package of health, nutrition and educational services to pregnant women, nursing mothers and children below six years of age ; maternal and child health schemes like immunisation, prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and prophylaxis against blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency ; and schemes to promote universalisation of elementary education.

Ban on Indiscriminate use and Spray of Insecticide, DDT and other Drugs

*93. **SHRI D.L. BAITHA** : Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Animal Research Institute of India, Issatnagar, U.P., after an analysis of samples collected from a number of different markets, has

stated that fish, meat and eggs available in the various Indian markets contain insecticide and other poisonous drugs above the safe limits which is injurious to human health and hazardous to community ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recent Science Congress has demanded a ban on the indiscriminate use and spray of insecticide, D.D.T. and other such drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) According to the Institute, market samples of fish, meat and eggs have not been collected and analysed by them for insecticide residues or other poisonous drugs. That Institute has also not made any statement that they contain residues above the safe limit.

(b) According to the information made available by the Ministry of Science and Technology, recommendations of the Indian Science Congress recently held at Lucknow have not been finalised.

Opening of Rheumatic Department in AIIMS

*94. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD** : Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Members of Parliament have submitted a memorandum to the Health Minister requesting her to open a Rheumatic Department at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi ; and

(b) if so, action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) Several Members of Parliament had submitted a memorandum to the former Health Minister requesting him to open a full-fledged Department of Clinical Immunology and Systemic Rheumatic Diseases.

(b) The matter has been referred to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and is under examination of the Institute.