GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:114
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000
NEW HEALTH POLICY
JAI PRAKASH

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

(a) whether the Government have completed the study on the suggestions received to fix target for the scope of the programme `Health for all`;

(b) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to announce new health policy to replace the existing health policy of 1983, keeping in view the present challenges; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the table of Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.114 TO BE ANSWERED C 31.07.2000

(a) to (c) : Health for All is the overall aim of the Health Policy of the country which envisages access to health care services, particularly for the poor and disadvantaged. Government is striving to achieve better health care through a variety of measures including the implementation of several National Programmes, renovation and modernisation of the health infrastructure and augmentation of medical manpower particularly in rural areas. In view of the significant epidemiological and demographic changes in the country since 1983, when the first National Health Policy was formulated, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has undertaken an exercise to revise the National Health Policy.

A study group has been constituted which is in the process of drafting the National Health Policy. Four Working Groups have also been constituted for obtaining suggestions regarding some important aspects such as strengthening of public health infrastructure at the State level, human resource development including medical education, inter-sectoral coordination and interface between indigenous and modern medicine. The inputs of Working Groups would be considered for inclusion in the revised National Health Policy.