

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1202
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000
NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY
NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY

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

(a) whether the Government propose to seek the co-operation of Panchayat Raj Institutions for effective implementation of National Population Policy for population control; and

(b) if so, the manner in which this proposal would be implemented especially in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1202 FOR 31st JULY, 2000 REGARDING NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY BY SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) National Population Policy approved by the Government in February, 2000 envisages decentralised planning and programme implementation, in which Panchayati Raj Institutions are key participants.

(b) The National Population Policy, 2000 adopted by Government envisages convergence of service delivery at village levels through the Panchayati Raj Institutions beginning with the village panchayats. It is envisaged that representative committee would be formed, from gram panchayat upwards, preferably headed by elected women panchayat members. These Committees will identify area specific unmet needs for reproductive health services and they will prepare need-based, demand driven, socio-demographic plans at the village levels. These plans will identify people-centred and integrated basic reproductive and child health care.

The National Population Policy, 2000 further envisages that self help groups will promote out reach upto household levels through these self-help groups and with convergence of services.

The Panchayati Raj Institutions from Village Panchayat upwards will need strengthening by further delegation of administrative and financial powers.