

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4209
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004
FUNDS FOR POPULATION CONTROL
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is one of the beneficiaries of UN Population Fund for reproductive health for the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the reduction in US Assistance to fund will affect the population programmes being implemented in our country;
- (d) if so, the action plan to over-come the shortage of funds in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to take the help of ex-servicemen for population control; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) assistance is made available to India through five year Country Programmes. During Country Programme-V (1997-2002) expenditure incurred was as follows:-

| Year | Amount (Rs. in crores) |
|-------|------------------------|
| 1997 | 26.72 |
| 1998 | 33.29 |
| 1999 | 29.25 |
| 2000 | 41.77 |
| 2001 | 54.76 |
| 2002 | 70.88 |
| Total | 256.67 |

The States covered under the programme were Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa & Kerala in the areas of Reproductive Health, Adolescent Health and Population and Development Strategies.

(c) The UNFPA Country Programme-VI has been approved on 17.6.2003 with an allocation of Rs. 364.51 Crores for next five years. This was made keeping in view the expenditure during Country Programme-V which was Rs. 256.67 Crores. As such any reduction in U.S. assistance to UNFPA would not impact India's Country Programme.

(d) Question does not arise in view of above.

(e) & (f) The Department of Family Welfare has been entrusted with specific 'sharply targeted population control programme' in 150 high fertility districts of the country, primarily in five demographically weak States of Northern India i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand. One of the key elements of the strategy for these districts is strengthening the management capacity at the State and District level by placing a management unit, including an ex-serviceman in various districts.