

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2135
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
CHILD HEALTH SCHEMES
Satheedevi Smt. P.

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

- (a) whether the Government is proposing any scheme for the protection of the health of children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of child health institutes functioning in the country as part of the Medical College Hospital;
- (d) whether there is any proposal for the upgradation of such institutes in order to facilitate better treatment for children in hazardous situations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(e) Child health activities have been a part of the Family Welfare programme of the Government since 1977. The initiatives which have been in operation are :

1. Universal Immunization Programme
2. Control of deaths due to diarrhoeal disease
3. Control of deaths due to pneumonia
4. Newborn care programme
5. Promotion of breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding
6. Supplementation with Vitamin A and Iron Folic Acid since 2005, a strategy with an integrated holistic approach, Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) is being implemented in 75 districts throughout the country. A health facility based and a community based newborn care programme is being devised for implementation.

All health facilities in the country provide services for child health and all medical colleges in the country have a department of Paediatrics which provides health services for children.

Under the National Rural Health Mission(NRHM), health facilities are being strengthened and up graded to Indian Public Health Standards(IPHS). Funds have been released for comprehensive development of the health facilities so as to equip them for provision of requisite health services.