

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2157

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007

EXPENDITURE TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN

Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether the Government spends less than 1% of the Gross Domestic Product on health and it spells doom for kids causing the death of two million children every year even before their first birthday;
- (b) if so, whether more than 50,000 children sleep on pavements in Delhi; and
- (c) if so, the concrete steps and measures proposed to be taken by the Government for improvement in the health care of the children?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Approximately 1.7 million children die annually before they complete the age of one year.As per Population Census – 2001, 24,966 persons constitute houseless population in Delhi, which includes 1802 children in the age group of 0-6 years.

Public expenditure on health is about 0.9% of GDP.However, the Government has launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) which includes different interventions for protecting the lives of children and promoting their health.