

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:300
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
UN REPORT ON POPULATION
Singh Shri Uday;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the United Nations Population Division has recently predicted that India's population may cross China's population by 2050;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government in consultation with State Governments proposes to evolve a fresh strategy to put a check on population explosion; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(c):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 300 FOR 23RD MARCH, 2005

(a) Yes Sir, as per United Nations Publication titled `World Population Prospects The 2004 Revision Highlights`, the projected population of India and China in 2050 is expected to be 159.3 crores and 139.2 crores respectively.

(b)&(c) The Government is pursuing the goal of population stabilisation by simultaneously addressing issues related to maternal & child health and contraception under the Reproductive & Child Health Programme. It is committed to promoting voluntary approach to family planning as adopted in the National Population Policy, 2000, with special focus on demographically weaker states.

The Government have recently decided to launch a National Rural Health Mission (2005-12) for the whole country, with special focus on 18 States, which have either weak socio-demographic indicators or inadequate primary health infrastructure, or both. These include the 8 EAG States (U.P., M.P., Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh), 8 North East States (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura), Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. The Mission aims at providing integrated comprehensive primary healthcare services, especially to the poor and underserved sections of society. The strategy of the Mission has been drawn up in consultation with the states. It aims at strengthening public health infrastructure and improving its accountability and quality of service through increased role of Panchayati Raj Institution and community; decentralization to district levels; inter & intra sectoral convergence at village level through a cadre of female Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA); upgrading CHCs to Indian Public Health Standards; and promotion of multiple Health Insurance models. The Mission seeks to integrate vertical programmes of RCH-II and National Disease Control Programme. Under the Phase II of Reproductive & Child Health Programme (2005-10), states have drawn up State Action Plans addressing their specific unmet needs, with a focus on improved services for institutional delivery, universal immunization, quality contraceptive and integrated referral care.