

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, only 2-3 minutes are left. I hope, next time I shall get an opportunity to speak at length. Sir, several hon. Members have spoken before me on agriculture. Everyone, be they from the Opposition or from the Congress (I), has praised the developments in the agricultural sector. I too express my appreciation for the same. Both the Centre and the States have given special attention to agriculture. More funds are being allocated for agriculture and allied sectors. Greater technical assistance is being provided as compared to the past and I congratulate the Central Government and the hon. Agriculture Minister for this welcome step. What is more important, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is that there has been a change in the thinking of the farmer. The farmers of today are more open to new ideas and technologies than their predecessors. Progress in the agricultural sector has been possible due to a combination of the Government's desire to help farmers and an eagerness on the part of farmers to accept that help. Till recently the rural populace shied away from adopting new ideas. But now the farmer watches television and listens to the radio with rapt attention, to educate himself and for subsequent application of the knowledge he acquires. This is a good omen for Indian agriculture. With the Government behind them the farmers can certainly improve their lot.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can continue on 19th April.

15.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sixty-fourth Report

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUNDERWATI NAWAL PRABHAKAR (Karol Bagh): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Sixty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolution presented to the House on the 11th April, 1989."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th April, 1989."

The motion was adopted

12.30 1/2 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: MEASURES TO CONTROL POPULATION EXPLOSION—
 CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi on the 31st March, 1989 on Measures to control population explosion. Shri Ajiz Qureshi may continue his speech. He is not present in the House. Shri Jatav please.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena): I rise to support the Resolution regarding measures to control population explosion moved by Dr. Bhoi. Today it is essential to have a small family as it will help in checking the extra-ordinary growth of population in our country. If a family of 4 brothers has 25 bighas of land and this land is divided among them, it becomes difficult for them to earn their livelihood. This leads to unemployment and educated village youth are unable to get jobs. While once again expressing my sup-

[Sh. Kammodilal Jatan]

port for the Resolution I would ask for greater effort towards the success of the family-planning programme.

[English]

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, today in our country the biggest problem which requires solution at the top level and in the most urgent manner is the problem of population explosion. We are all aware that we are adding one Australia to India so far as increase in our population is concerned. In spite of our tremendous agricultural output—today we are heading to touch a figure of 170 million tonnes of foodgrains—I do not think by 2000 AD, we will be able to match the growth in our agricultural production with the exploding growth of population. And so far as the availability of houses, schools and other amenities which are required for our population is concerned, we will be lagging far far behind. Even today, most of our economy and most of our budget allotment caters for building up infrastructural facilities only. If you look at the Western countries where population growth has been controlled, facilities such as schools, universities, hospitals and all the elementary necessities which make the life of a citizen comfortable and enable him to develop into a good human being and a good citizens are available for all. For example, in England in the last 45 years, not a single hospital was required to be added. This enabled them to modernise their hospitals. They have enough funds to make them scientifically better equipped and to produce better education rather than giving elementary education to the whole lot of added population. This has resulted in stagnation of development of our country. I would suggest to the hon. Minister some of the points which may go in the long way to make our country or our society more aware of the necessity of controlling the population and making the family planning programme of the Government a success.

My first suggestion is that society's involvement should be more intensified. To-

day most of the family welfare and family planning programmes are being made, executed and monitored by the Government. My suggestion is that more and more non Government social organisations should be involved. The biggest hurdle in our country today is religion. Somehow we are still suffering a phobia of having a son and in the search for a son, people produce a string of girls. Not that the girls are not welcome. But this is the philosophy of some of the religions. There are some religions where use of family planning devices is being condemned. There are some religions where abortions are supposed to be anti-religious. I only want to give an example of Indonesia. It is basically a Muslim country. They also have this programme of distribution of family planning devices to the people in the villages. They thought that it was not making a headway. Then what they tried was that in the distribution Centres where the family planning devices were being distributed to the citizens, particularly women, they used to make the Maulvi or Mullah just stand there. Nowhere it is given in the religious books that producing lesser number of children is sinful. So, what they did as that where the people used to come and take these contraceptives and other family planning devices for use, they used to see the Mullah present there and they used to get the message that it was not anti-religion. In this way, it did make a headway.

So far as our villages are concerned, the family planning movement definitely desires to be intensified. Today the rural areas—I am not saying that the Government is not doing anything, the Government is doing something—are more urban oriented. We are having more family planning movements in the urban areas where the rich, the upper middle and the middle class live. We all know that in this class of society, people have taken family planning seriously and successfully so far as the family planning movement is concerned. But in villages, we still require the necessity of having this movement intensified. The basic reason is that so far as poor people are concerned—poor in the urban areas—they think that having a

large number of children is an economic boon. Because if a labourer has five small children aged 10 or 12 years, they can start working as domestic help in the houses of rich, upper middle and middle class people. By doing so they bring some money. And the house where they go and work, there they get free food, the second-hand clothes and so on. So, economically for a poor family that much number of children is not a burden because they neither get education nor they have any standard to look for. So, there should be some movement started by the Family Welfare Department itself in collaboration with other Ministries under which the children of poor should be looked after and they should be given the jobs. The hon. Prime Minister has started that one person from each family will be given employment in the scheme which has been incorporated as per this year's declaration. This programme must be intensified with a view to giving them more respectful profession of proper employment.

So far as education is concerned, I think, the Education Ministry is not doing their bit as much as they can do. It has been found that even in some States of our country where the percentage of education is very high, like Kerala, the population has been much better controlled. The result of family planning movement has been much better in those States in our country where the education has been intensified at the primary and middle levels, particularly, the education of women.

So far as our rural areas are concerned, the stress on education is not as much as it should be so far as women are concerned. It is because women can play a much more predominant part in controlling the population rather than men.

In the end I will only suggest that, as the environment is becoming better for making the family planning programme a success, we should also give the family planning programme the seriousness it deserves in our Budget. But I am sorry to see that in the entire Budget Document there is not even a

single line about family planning programme. When we are spending so much of money to look after the poor, unemployed, their housing problem, their education, their medical care, their all sorts of requirements, can't we spend some money to ensure that the population of the poor people, who have become a liability of the Government, should be contained, because it has seen that the largest chunk of our people who have produced more children is the poor class? Can't we give them some sources of entertainment? In the evening, there is hardly any place for their entertainment; there is hardly any play fields for their children; there is hardly any club for their entertainment. All the clubs and the places of entertainment are patronised by people who are rich. So, I will suggest to the hon. Minister that something should be done from the Ministry of Health so that the poor people who come to take contraceptives, they should not only take contraceptives but there should be some place where they can enjoy in the evening. You place some TV sets somewhere so that they can see entertainment programmes in the evening; you keep some sewing machines somewhere so that the young girls can learn how to stitch and all that; you also provide some typewriters somewhere so that the children of the poor people can learn typewriting or even adults can learn typewriting because today typing can give a lot of income to the poor class of people. So, I would suggest that you should not only make this Ministry a nodal Ministry for fighting population explosion, efforts should also be made in the other Ministries, particularly the Social Welfare and the Education, how to educate these people to contain the population.

SHRI HET RAM (Sirsa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House is discussing how to control population explosion. Really, it is a great problem for India because this problem is being faced only by a poor country where this system has not been developed according to the needs of the people. But we are going to control the system instead of controlling the resources; and due to that, if we look around the world we will see this

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growth in their culture, education resources. In European countries like England and West Germany, the population growth is going down. In Sweden, there is a proposal that if their population is going down, they are going to give facilities to the procreating men and woman so that their population may be contained. But here in India the problem is a social problem and the Government is not tackling the social problem in the right way. Because you have to first look after the Scheduled Caste people and the poorer sections of the people—as some hon. Members have already said—who constitute the generating power. The richer people or the uppermost portion of the society contributes only to negative population growth. This is due to lack of facilities for education, lack of social awareness and lack of other means which are the real hindrance for the development of the poor society. The poor person thinks that if he has got two or three children they will not divide their kingdom—whatever they have got—amongst them. They will be under the same roof. And even if one child is there he will not become the Prime Minister or something else, but he will only be a labourer or a servant in somebody else's house, and the same problems will continue to be there. There will be the problems for education, for clothing and for the other things. And even if five children are there, according to him, the same problems will be there. Therefore, first of all, what the Government should do is to see that any person who is having one child, he should be assured of the three minimum necessities, namely, education, shelter and clothing. If social security is not there, nobody is going to adopt family planning just for the sum of Rs. 500 or Rs. 700 being given now. Even if they take that money it will be spent in repaying the loans to the money-lender, because he lives only by taking money from the money-lender.

The Government's work is done in such a way that the figures are only cooked up or manipulated. They just manage to show that a certain number of operations are per-

formed. We had seen what happened during the Emergency time. Now the poor women are afraid of these operations. What has happened in Rajasthan recently? Ninety-three poor people died after the operation was performed. Those women who underwent the operation died and a movement against such operations is going on there. Because, the doctors only think that cattle are coming for operation, that they have to fill up the forms and give the figures.

If we have to control the population we have to go in for the development of the country and the society. One hon. Member has said that the caste system is playing an important role. No; religion is not playing any role. Turkey has done this. Only the poor or uneducated sections, the backward classes are misled. They do not know anything about Quran. They are only misled. But if education is there, or if the Muslim society is developed, I am sure that nobody is going to oppose family planning. Because of the political propoganda among the backward classes and the scheduled classes, they are misled.

It is only the backward classes who are backward culturally and socially, especially the Scheduled Castes and the Muslims and other backward communities which are the real procreating people. As an economist has said, I will also think, that instead of adjusting the people according to the resources, first of all you should divide the resources equally, and every person should have a share in everything which is available in the country. But what is it we see today? In rural areas there is no drinking water even. There is nothing for the poor people to eat or clothe themselves and for five or seven hundred rupees if the Government wants them to undergo the operation for family planning they may not agree. They think that having more children will be useful for them because in their old age they will be looked after.

In Haryana Shri Devi Lal, the Chief Minister has started an old age pension scheme under which old people who are

issueless are going to be helped. I would like to suggest to the Central Government that persons who are above 65 years and issueless must be provided with two hundred rupees pension so that they could survive.

I would only like to say that the Government should devote more attention to the upliftment of the socially, economically and educationally backward classes, particularly Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Unless and until we do that, we would not be able to solve this problem.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this useful debate on the moved resolution by my hon. friend Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi.

While participating in the debate, I would like to speak in my mother tongue Oriya, for which I had already given notice for its interpretation.

[Translation]

*Honourable Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this very useful resolution moved by Honourable Member, Dr. Krupa Sindhu Bhoi. While participating in the discussion I would like to speak in my mother tongue Oriya for which I have already informed.

Sir, the phenomenal growth of population in last few decades is a matter of great concern for everybody. The growing population has a direct impact on our economy. The Government have been formulating special plans for the all round progress of the people of this country. But the plans have very little impact on the progress of the people due to the alarming rise of population. Despite massive investment made in every five years plan, the people are not getting much benefit out of it. Due to the rise in population, the want is increasing manifold and due to constraint of resources we are not able to meet the requirement of every

people in this country. Therefore the alarming rise in population is having a direct adverse impact on our national economy. India is borrowing a huge amount of money from foreign countries. Our debt burden is increasing every year. So, population explosion has become the largest problem in the country. While moving his resolution, Dr. K.S. Bhoi has expressed his grave concern for the population explosion. I share the sentiment expressed by Dr. Bhoi in his speech. However, I am grateful to Dr. Bhoi for giving us an opportunity to express our views on this grave national problem.

Sir, the department dealing with family planning programmes was under the control of Health & Family Planning Ministry. The family planning is meant for the welfare of the people. So, the Government changed the name of Family planning department as Family Welfare Department. So, I thank the Government for making such change.

Now I would like to say a few words about the causes of the population explosion. The first and the foremost factor responsible for population explosion is ignorance of the common men. Many people living in this country have no knowledge about the advantage and methods of family planning. Secondly, illiteracy is the reason why they do not adopt family planning. Thirdly, the blind belief is another factor why people do not go for family planning. Many people still have the fobia of getting a son. They think that a son can only look after them at their oldage. Then Sir, the media is not effective in carrying the true message of family planning to the common men. Socio-Economic condition of the people plays a vital role in the success or the failure of the family planning programme. As you know Sir, millions of people in this country are passing their days with dire poverty. They believe in the theory of more the members in the family more the income. This I am telling from my own experience. While touring in my constituency, I have come across different types of people I have met the rural poor, the Harijans, the Adivasis, who are the weaker section of the society. I have asked them as

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Oriya.

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to why are they not adopting small family norm. But you will surprise to know Sir, my argument has not impact on them. They say that, more members will get more jobs and they will earn more money to implement the income of the family. Moreover they will look after the parents at their oldage. Apart from this, they require some children to look after the cultivation and to take care of the cattle wealth. So, they need more children and they do not want to go for family planning.

Sir, I would like to point out a very disturbing fact which was responsible for the failure of family planning. As you know Sir, our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi had laid great stress on the success of family planning-programmes. Our late leader Sanjay Gandhi was very keen to make this national programme a great success. He had raised the slogans of 'We are two, our two', 'Each one, teach one', and 'plant a tree'. He had thought of the far-reaching adverse impact of growing population on our economy. So he realised the need of promoting family planning. Of course he had a very noble intention behind implementing this programme. But I am very sorry to say that the Opposition Members at that time did not take correct stand. They spoke ill of family planning. They said that the Government took away the land by implementing consolidation of holding programme and the Government will curtail the population by adopting illegal method of family planning. Then Sir, due to our misfortune there was emergency proclaimed in our country. When emergency was lifted and election was ordered, the Opposition Members charged the Government for doing excess during emergency. The true spirit of family planning programme was not taken by them in a constructive manner. They started wrong propaganda. As you know Sir, our people are very simple and innocent. They could not realise that what the opposition said was absolutely wrong and far from truth. As a result of the unholy alliance of the Opposition, Janta Party was emerged and it came to power at the Centre as well as in some

States. Even while they were in power they continued to give the same kind of publicity. As a result of this the family planning suffered a serious a set back from 1977. Its adverse impact remained for a few years more even after they were ousted from power. Even some of them who are in opposition now are criticising the Government on one pretext or the other. They do not want to give constructive suggestions to the Government. They have taken a vow to criticise every action of the Government without examining its merits. That is the greatest peculiarity of our opposition friends.

Sir, the Planning Commission had constituted an expert Committee in 1984 to find out the reasons of the alarming rise of population and also to make a projection of the growth of the population towards the turn of the century. It is not the duty of the Opposition to mislead the people and give political colour to every issue. The growth rate of population was 1.83% in 1977 and it rose to 1.91% in 1978. Hon'ble friends from opposition should realise that the rising population has a direct impact on our economy. I would like to point out the result of the sample survey of two years.

Sir, I have just touched the first point and you are ringing the bell.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker No, as a small family you have to be very brief in what you say. Do not elaborate. You have to plan accordingly.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Sir, I have covered only one point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are many members waiting to speak. They will not get time.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Sir, Hon. Members have been allowed to speak for half an hour and twenty five minutes in the past.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, he is speaking. You have brought so many per-

sons, they are waiting to speak.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Sir, I am trying to complete within five minutes.

Sir, I was saying about the sample survey. In 1971, the natural growth rate was 2.20% and 16 years later, 1987 is still stood at 2.12%. That means the growth rate reduced by 0.08% only. So we have to take serious note of this trend. Our family planning norm in the past was 'we are two our two.' But Dr. Bhoi has made a request through his resolution to evolve a national consensus for acceptance of one norm. While appreciating the suggestion of Dr. Bhoi, I would like to make a few suggestions as to how we can implement it.

Firstly, the couples adopt one child norm or two children norm should be given some incentives. If they want to do some business, they should be given loan on priority. Every effort should be made to make them self dependent. The Govt. employees adopting family planning norms should be given one additional increment each.

16.00 hrs.

Secondly, the couples going for sterilisation should be provided with proper medical care. The State like Orissa has introduced green card system. Rest of the States in the country should introduce similar system and thereby promote family planning programme. The green card holders should be given priority in employment, allotment of houses etc.

Then Sir, we mainly depend on the employees of the health department and voluntary organisations for implementing family planning programme. There are as many as 300 voluntary organisations engaged in this programme in the entire country. I would like to request to the Hon. Minister of Health & Family Welfare to involve more and more voluntary Organisations in this programme. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare who is sitting

here to the problems of village Health Guides. A few days ago I had raised a question in that regard in this House. Sir, the Village Health Guides were given appointment in the year 1977. At that time they were getting remuneration of Rs. 50 each. Besides, they were given medicine worth Rs. 50/- which they were disturbing in the villages. Now they are not getting any remuneration. The State Govt. is saying that they were appointed under a centrally sponsored scheme. Sir, the Central Govt. should pay the remuneration. They have not got any remuneration since last 26 months. When I brought it to the notice of the Central Government, Hon. Minister said that the payment would be made soon. But nothing has been done in that regard. I urge upon the Government to expedite the payment. At the same time I would like to suggest to the Govt. to appoint adequate number of village Health Guides for propagating family programme. In this way, we can promote family planning Programme. I hope that the Government will consider my suggestion. Sir, some efforts should be made to provide proper training to the employees on the implementation of the family planning programmes. I feel that the training facilities available at present are very inadequate. So, Govt. should take some immediate steps in that regard. Because Sir, in the event of the failure of one vasectomy or tubectomy sterilisation the employees are blamed and a section of people carry mis propaganda to the masses and create wrong impression in their minds. In order to counter such situation, the employees incharge of family planning programme should be given proper training. Sir, the other day, I was listening to the speech made; by Hon. Opposition Member, Shri Shahabuddin. He was advocating polygamy in Muslim communities. I am really very sorry to hear such argument from a very senior and responsible member like Shri Shahabuddin. Atleast he should not have advanced such argument in the House. This will have very bad repercussion on the society and hamper the implementation of the family planning programme in the country. Sir, I would like to say another thing from my own experience. I had gone to USSR in

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1976. A law was enacted in that country in that year. According to that act person having more than one child would be given some incentives. More than one child would be given a scholarship. I wanted to know the reaction of some Russian citizens about the provision made in the act. They said that they would not go for more than one child; even they get any amount of benefit. Therefore we should not encourage anybody in our country to go for more than one child even if they marry more than one wife.

Sir, the Central Govt. under the leadership of our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has been making all possible efforts to achieve success in family planning programme. Our Prime Minister has said that one child of the couple will be given priority in employment. So, we should extend our cooperation to the Central Government and strengthen the hands of our Prime Minister. I hope that we will be able to protect our country from the danger of population explosion by 2001 if we follow the the suggestions give by our Prime Minister in that direction. With these words I thank you very much and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): Sir, as you have rightly observed, I would be very brief because we are speaking on Family Planning and we must also try to plan our speech.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars): Sir, last week I was the only Member present in the House when this subject was discussed and I was not given an opportunity to speak on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will call you.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Sir, I will quote an answer which I received for an Unstarred Question. My question was: "what is the total number of births registered in the

year 1988?". The answer given was: "10.3 million life births took place in the year 1988". So, 10.3 million life births have taken place in the year 1988. That is the answer given to me in the Lok Sabha in this ensuing Session. That means, in 1988, we have added 1.3 crore children. We are said to be adding one Australia every year. We have added 1.3 crore people in the year 1988. That is the life-birth registered. But there are a number of births which have not been registered. But we can take it that at least 1.3 crores had been added in the year 1988. That is the figure given according to the life births registered. There are a number of births which have not been registered. But we can take it that at least one crore population had been added in the year 1988. Now, the enormity of this problem can be illustrated in terms of Article 45 of the Constitution. Article 45 of the Constitution says that the State shall provide free and compulsory education for every child upto the age of 14. The Parliamentary Delegation from Ireland visited the country very recently and when we met them in Room No. 62 of the Parliament House, they said that the illiteracy rate in India is so high and it is practically at the bottom so far as literacy is concerned. How do you expect democracy to function in this respect with such a large number of illiterates? Of course, we gave our answer to them. But this problem of providing education to the growing population in India is to be faced. You just calculate. For every 50 children who reach the age of 5 and who are to be sent to the school, you require a class-room and a class teacher. For every 50 children, a class-room will cost Rs. 25,000 minimum and a teacher will cost not less than Rs. 10,000 per annum. That means, a class-room and a class-teacher for 50 children will cost us Rs. 35,000 plus additional Rs. 5000 for other equipment, that is, to give primary education to 50 children a State has to invest not less than Rs. 40,000. For 100 children the State is required to invest Rs. 80,000. That is, for every child you require Rs. 800 to give education in the elementary school. Therefore for one crore children you require Rs. 800 crores and the States and the Centre put together have to find additional resources to

the tune of Rs. 800 crores for giving them some elementary education. I was Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of my State. I had occasion to examine a para relating to unfinished elementary school buildings. At that time we asked the Education Department to give planning for providing just ordinary solitary class rooms and class teachers. The figure worked out to be enormous. Recently, of course *The Hindu* had a very good illustrative cartoon with regard to education and our resources for funding education—a bullock cart with a bull on the one side of the chasm and the cart on the other side of the chasm. The chasm is the resources gap. This is with reference to the mere elementary education, not to speak of health, food, clothing, sanitation and drinking water.

Sir, the problem is enormous. Nobody is taking serious note of it. Unfortunately during the Emergency period this family planning got a bad name and from that time onwards no Government is prepared to take it up seriously. I think the second thought here is a national consensus for acceptance of one child per couple norm by the people. One child per couple is an excellent idea. But national consensus has to be evolved. Suppose the national consensus is here, but unfortunately we are not able to give effect to this national consensus. So what I suggest is, evolve national consensus by all means, by propaganda and by incessantly educating our people about the necessity to have family planning and family control. But if that fails, I suggest that we must go in for statutory compulsion. Otherwise we will not be able to control our population. If we are not able to control our population, we will be heading towards an irredeemable anarchy. Democracy will not function, but mobocracy will overtake us. Law and order itself will become a problem. And when law and order becomes a problem, we will no longer be a welfare State, but we will be compelled to become a police State. Already on account of law and order the security risk has gone so much, the expenditure incurred for security and for law and order itself has gone up so disproportionately high that even other

western countries are wondering whether we are really heading towards a welfare State or whether we are heading towards a police State. Therefore, the very basic principle of democracy itself becomes scuttled on account of this population growth, population explosion. I have been facing election right from the year 1955 for the last 34 years. In the year 1956 when I went for my election-eering to the rural areas, I never used to see this crowd of children. Now, if we go into the village in a jeep we find a crowd of children running after us. It is not possible at all to take count of the population growth. Even in the rural areas that is so. But the position in urban areas is horrible. In slums you cannot even walk. In fact, in 1988 when I went on pada yatra in my own town I was told by all the people in the slum areas that they sleep on the cement road, they do not have any sleeping accommodation in the house. The houses are so small that there is no accommodation for them. They simply sleep by the side of the gutter on the cement road. There is hardly any space. A teacher was running a small school on the cement road itself. We know the problem of slum dwellers and pavement dwellers in Bombay. That problem will extend to every town. The question today is, whether we must face this anarchy of explosion which will lead to *Pralayam-Layam* and *Pralayam* or we must control it.

We have to evolve not only national consensus but we must go in for statutory regulations and statutory compulsion. It is all right, you convince the people to adopt family planning. If you are not able to convince, you have to necessarily go in for statutory regulations. There is no other alternative. Of course, people are doing the family planning work at their level best. In the Public Accounts Committee, we had occasion to examine this aspect. We have got very many committed people so far as family planning is concerned. We saw one of the Secretaries having exhibited sincerity and zeal in getting the family planning programme implemented. But that is not enough. What I would humbly submit to this House is that we must go in for statutory regulations.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is a national problem, that population is growing. I would like to point out where has the Government mistaken.

Family is the smallest unit of our society. Then, it goes to village, then block, zilla or district, State and then the nation comes. The family has its own problem. Has any time the Government given a thought how to help this family unit? Every family is a kind of government where mother and father try to manage everything. They have to take up so many responsibilities. They have to take care of health of children, their elderly mother, father and everybody of the family. They have to take care of their food, clothing, housing, marriage, social obligation, education, justice, birth and death. This is the burden that every family is facing.

Just now, our Government has come out with the proposal that you should adopt birth control. Why can't the Government at least help this family unit first—their housing, food, clothing, education needs. A lot of money has already been spent. Has the Government got any proposal at least to give free education to all the children in the age group of 6 to 11 years? Do they have proposal to give compulsory education to at least two children free of cost and every other thing like food, health etc. Then, the people will think that if they have more than 2 children, then the responsibility will automatically come to the family and therefore, they would like to have only two children. The parents will be little bit educated on that line. Government should think that all the people who are born in India should have the equal right. They should have the right for education, health, food, clothing and all other things, which the rich people are enjoying here. In this line also, it is the duty of the Government to think that all the children of this nation have the equal right. But what is our social structure here? We have to buy education. Without money, we cannot have education. Without money, you cannot have health also. So also for housing etc. What a big problem is there for a unit of the family in

India? In general, the Government must look after the first unit of our nation, i.e. family, apart from looking into mere birth control.

Celibacy in India is disregarded. There is no respect for it. So many social workers, those who want to remain unmarried for social work are not respected in the society. People suspect their celibacy. In the developed countries, a number of people take to celibacy as a mode of life. Even nuns and brothers run schools and colleges. They also run hospitals. They are very good missionaries. I had a chance to speak to Ramakrishna Mission. I was told, "Mr. Tiraky, we are very much in trouble because we are not getting any voluntary worker who wants to serve the society by remaining as a bachelor." It is because Indians think it compulsory for even a beggar to get married. Even a beggar marries in India. They think it is the first duty to get the children married, not education or health or housing or anything. Parents are only worried when to get their children married. This is the main point. Even in the lower strata of society, people are not worried about how their children will be able to live and what will happen to their future after marriage. They only think that their children should get married. This is our socialist structure.

One of my friends was telling me the other day that there is no objection from religious point of view for a man to have three or four wives. Here in our country, there are equal rights for women also. Why not the Government ask a women also to have three or four husbands? Then the number of children will be less. There are equal for men and women.

No religion says that you can produce as many children as you can. If a family is well-educated, well-fed and well housed, naturally they could have some standard and the number of children will be reduced. But, in our country there is no standard of living at all. There is nothing of that sort. It is very much unorganised and our Government is happy spending money. They say, so many crores of rupees have been spent

on family planning! What is the result? The result is false sterilisation certificates are being given. The doctor is giving a certificate for Rs. 5/-.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): I would like to say something. I want to express my views on family planning.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to participate in the discussion on family planning?

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then I will call you.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: We have got a number of Sadhus. They are moving about here and there and begging. But, what is the use of these people to society? Why don't you make all the Sadhus to do some social work? There is no need of begging in countryside. That would only create nuisance to the people of India and to the foreigners also. Begging should be stopped immediately. If the Government has any courage, before making any other law, it should make a statutory law that begging should be stopped forthwith because it has become a nuisance. It is compulsory for every Indian to get married. Even a beggar in India gets married. How can you check the population? The Government has no control on the primary unity of the family. As far as family planning is concerned, the family is responsible to adopt it and not the Government. There is another aspect. The Government has no control over it. There is no programme for health care, food and clothing, housing and other social problems. All these things seem to be biased. Every family has to spend a lot on account of marriage, death etc. Also, every family is burdened with tax burden. There is also the phenomenon of rising prices. Every burden is passed on to the family. Without any facilities, how can you expect that they will follow the family planning programme? The Government is

not giving any help to the primary unit, which is the most important unit of our society. Without proper education, how can the Government expect that the family planning programme will be a successful programme? Does the Government think that it will succeed in this regard? I don't think the Government will succeed. 80 per cent of our population is illiterate. There is corruption in implementing the family planning programmes. There is corruption in the Medical Department. Corruption prevails among the social workers also and everywhere some amount of money has been looted in the name of family planning. So much of public money is spent by the Government. There is another peculiar problem. More and more children are added to the population of India. Everyday, new births take place.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I thank you for having called me to participate in this discussion. I also thank Dr. Bhoi for having moved this Resolution. Our thanks are due to him for having chosen this particular topic because he could have chosen some other topic which is of interest to this constituency. But it is a topic of great national interest and importance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has kept in mind the national interest.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: It shows his national interest. So many hon. Members have put forth their views. There is no controversy about this. We have to lay maximum emphasis on family planning programme and also on welfare programmes. We have to go in a big way. We have to do it in a massive scale, as far as population control is concerned. There is no denying the fact. We are a very great nation now. We have a very great past. We have also emerged to be a great nation by now.

Over the last four decades since Independence, in the field of agriculture, in the field of industry and in all developmental

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

fields, our progress is quite spectacular and remarkable. We have made a lot of strides. In spite of that, we continue to be a poor nation. We are a great nation, as I said earlier. At the same time, we are also a poor nation. Take the case of technically educated persons and the scientists. I think India is one of the three or four countries in the world with regard to production of scientists. But at the same time, when we talk of illiteracy rate in our country, it is alarming. It was referred to by the hon. Member from the other side. This matter was raised in some international forums and also when some Parliamentary Delegation which came here very recently. They put this question about the functioning of democracy in the midst of such a high rate of illiteracy in the country. Naturally, we have to hang our head in shame. In spite of so many things to our credit, this is such a weakness that our heads just hang in shame. We are the highest, the greatest, the biggest and the largest illiterate country in the world today. Have we not done anything in this area over the four decades since Independence? Well, as we have done in many fields. We have covered a lot of ground in this area also. As you know, at the time of partition, our population was 35 to 36 crores. What was the literacy rate then? It was around 15 per cent. If you calculate, about five crore to six crore people were literate. When India was partitioned in 1947, the total number of persons who were literate was around five to six crores. But, today, it has gone up to 33 per cent or 36 percent—say, two-thirds illiterate and one-third literate. Today, 80 crores is the population and the number of literate people are 26 crores. The literate population at the time of partition was five to six crores and now it is 26 crores, which means, an addition of twenty crores. Again, percentage-wise, if that population had stagnated at the level of 35 crores till now, than what would have been our percentage of literacy? It would have been somewhere around 80 per cent. This is simple arithmetic. Because, there has been a fantastic growth, the population growth

could not be arrested. This is our plight. In spite of all the progress that we have achieved in different fields, we today have a bad name of being the largest illiterate country in the world—the largest democracy in the world as also the largest illiterate country in the world. This our fate. We talk of everything like poverty, people not getting drinking water, proper food etc. There is no denying the fact. It is just natural. In the midst of plenty, we have the poverty and scarcity in different fields. This is our plight. We have cities like Calcutta where millionaires are there, *Karorpathies* are there, billionaires are there. But there are people in large number of sleeping under the sky on the foot-path. Who has not seen this? Who does not know this? So, the main problem is our population growth and we have to check it. China, our neighbouring country, is still the most populous, number one country, in the world. But they have succeeded in a great measure to control their population growth. Our population is growing at the rate of 2.1 per cent whereas in China it is growing at the rate of 1.3 per cent now. If we go on like this, by 2040 A.D., we will surpass China and we will be the number one country, the largest populated country in the world. Our population, as you know, will be touching 100 crores by the turn of the century. We are trying our best in every direction to provide house-sites, to provide jobs to unemployed etc. But if the growth goes on like this, many more problems will be created and it will simply complicate our situation leading to serious law and order problem and everything. It will not be a Welfare State. It will be something else. Whatever has been about it by the previous speaker, I fully agree with that and I share his concern. How can we do it? The problem is, everyone of us inside the Parliament and on the floor of the House agrees on one thing, but what is our behaviour outside? I don't say about any individual; but I say about the political system as such. What happened during Emergency? One Sanjay Gandhi could do it. Can anybody challenge his sincerity for family planning and his patriotism? But where were we heading towards? What was the propaganda built out of that?

Naturally in a country of India's size with all its problems, all the political parties and all the religious leaders have to work for it. First the political parties have to take a lead. We have to sit together and arrive at a national consensus, come what may. But what is our political behaviour and political conduct? We agree something in a conference and when we go outside, we don't hesitate to politicise it. We violate the agreement. We appeal to the sentiments of the people so that we can get some support to win an election. This is the great danger in a democracy. Of course, elections are associated with democracy. And political parties and politicians are a very great part of it. At the same time national interests should be safeguarded. For everything when the family planning is hitting at the root, should we not shed our hypocrisy about it be unanimous have a consensus and go whole-heartedly round the country?

There should be a serious debate about it. Under any circumstances no political party or social organisation, just judging the situation and the people's mood in some places of religious gathering, should deviate from it and speak in a different tone. Otherwise we just cannot achieve the desired results.

No doubt, we are going ahead and are making some progress. But we cannot just have a spectacular progress and achieve the desired result. In China they could do it because they have a different system. But I agree that for a programme like this in a country of India's size with its admittedly conservative people, probably a bit of compulsion is needed. When the purpose is good, when it is a noble cause, there is no harm if there is an element of compulsion. We have to make it statutorily compulsory. For so many things we have done it. Therefore, there should be a consensus.

The other day when you were also here, Sir, I was making a reference during the course of my speech in the debate on the General Budget. Today I again reiterate it. Why have a Conference of only politicians? We can also have a conference of religious

leaders and world religious leaders conference in India on this topic. We know that certain communities and religions have serious reservations about family planning. They have their opposition and stiff resistance to it. But, in Indonesia you know the composition of its population. 95% of them are Muslims. There, the religious leaders, the Prophets are the greatest advocates of the family planning. If they could do so, why cannot their counterparts here equally propagate the same? It is a question of getting all such leaders and having a conference and going about this programme whole-heartedly. I would request the Government and the Minister who is present here to give a serious thought to it.

There are so many other things, about green card etc. About one thing Dr. Bhoi was very energetic and progressive. He was suggesting one child family norm. I cannot go that far. Even for a two-children family norm we are finding it difficult to have the acceptance of the people. People still say that for Indian system there should be one child for the father, one for the mother and one for the road. So, they demand three children.

Naturally if we immediately adopt one child norm that will create resistance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat now. I have called the next speaker.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: We will have to go in for that norm gradually. The health and education and other facilities should be available upto two children.

16.42 hrs.

[SHRI N VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Resolution which has been moved by Dr. Bhoi regarding measures to control the explosion of population in our country. The problem of population explo-

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sion is one which has been worrying all of us on both sides of the House. I think there is no difference of opinion as far as this is concerned. Therefore, it is but appropriate that this has come at least in the form of a non-official resolution in this House today. I only wish more Members should have been present in the House when such an important matter is being discussed.

Before I go further I must set the records straight with respect to certain observations made by my friends from the other side. I think Mr. Jena and now Mr. Panigrahi referred to the measures that late Shri Sanjay Gandhi has initiated for the family planning programme. Well, his intentions might have been good. I do not deny that. But I must mention that it was during those two years—the dark period of Emergency—when due to coercive methods that were used due to the over-zealousness of certain officers to meet the targets that there were reports that several bachelors, spinsters, youngsters and aged people who were beyond the productive age were operated upon only to fulfill the targets that were set. I must say that this really set the clock back as far as this programme was concerned and since then we have not been able to recover from that jolt and the family planning programme has taken the back seat. I only wanted to say this because I do not agree with what other friends said. Late Sanjay Gandhi's intentions may have been good; his priorities were right but the manner in which the whole thing was done has come in the way of this programme.

Mr. Chairman, before we think of measures to control the population we must also try to understand the reason why this phenomenon has occurred in our country. Several decades ago you will find that though there may have been a slight increase in terms of percentage of population it was not as much as it has been during the last three-four decades. Even then the literacy was very low yet the explosion was not severe in the primitive society where there were a

number of illiterates. The population equilibrium was controlled by several natural factors.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this Resolution is already over. As there are many more Members who want to participate in this debate, is it the pleasure of the House that we extend the time for this Resolution?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir. At least by two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. The time for this Resolution is extended by two hours.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Kumool): Mr. Chairman Sir, in those days, when literacy was not high, population did not explode in the manner as it is today.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS (Tezpur): The reason was that in those days the death rate was very high.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: I thank Mr. Bipinpal Das for his intervention and late discovery that it was maintained due to the high death rate. Well, he is right. It is not as it only the death rate was high; the birth rate was also high. But both balanced each other. Likewise, in a fully developed society, it is not only that the birth rate is low but the death rate is also low. Now, this is a phenomenon which every developing country has faced, especially in a time like we had during the last two or three decades. When there are developments in science and better medical facilities, the death rate falls down. These are normal periods when the population explosion takes place. Due to scientific advancements and better maintenance in medical facilities, due to inoculations and vaccinations and several other facilities, the death rate sharply falls down whereas the birth rate continues at the same rate. This has precisely lead to the population explosion in our country.

I wonder whether the Government has conducted a kind of survey though I agree

that if you increase literacy, that would, in turn, improve the per-capita income. It would also enable people to understand the concept of a family pattern and they would plan their families. But, basically it is not because of literacy. We do not know when we are going to attain 100 per cent literacy or a high percentage of literacy. It is also not right to presume that the population control has to be co-terminus with literacy. I personally feel that it is not literacy but a certain amount of affluence, a better living which induces a person to plan his family. I am sure that if you conduct a survey, you will find that in families where people are not qualified academically or not literate, in the dictionary sense of the term, but where they are enjoying a better living, where the standards of income are higher, they automatically begin to plan their families. My colleague here said that even a beggar want to marry in our country. He is right. They want to do so because a beggar feels that he may have more children to beg with him if he marries. Likewise a labour also thinks in terms of getting hands through their children to work. At that particular moment, they do not think that they have to feed an extra mouth. This programme, if it has to succeed, will have to go the rural areas, those sections of society where the concept of small families is totally missing today. When the people think of a larger family, they think in terms of benefits that will accrue to them rather than the liabilities. In cities and towns, you will find that there is no need to propagate this family planning programme because more or less the unemployed people, the class IV employees and even the domestic servants plan their families since they are exposed to the hazards of having a larger family. Once you get certain responsibilities, then, automatically the urge also comes upon a man to control the size of his family to see that his progeny at least will enjoy a better living and they are able to achieve something in life. If this programme has to succeed, you will have to use audio-visual methods. You have such powerful electronics media today, e.g., TV. Whenever I switch on the TV, I find only the Prime Minister there and many of my colleagues and friends. You should see that the family

planning programme gets some place in TV.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): I hope when you go home, you will switch on the TV. On TV also, Nowadays, my Ministry has brought out a very useful TV spot for public education.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: But they are speaking the same thing.

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: These spots are meant to educate the people. That is the idea behind this.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: But they have become boring. You must make them interesting.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: What I am trying to say is that there should be more of them. For example, you know that today one of the most popular programme is Maha-Bharat; earlier it was Ramayana. Before that, you give a number of advertisements. During that period, when you know that everybody is on to the TV, can you not have two-three minutes for this? It all depends at which time it comes. Prime time is the most important for it. I do not know how many people listen to the news, Today in Parliament, 10.30 p.m. Many people would be fast asleep when it comes. Naturally, if you have these programmes at 12.00 in the night or some other odd time, then the impact of it is much less.

Then, these programmes should also be in the regional languages which they have from different State capitals.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: When all members of the family are watching the TV together, the family planning programmes on the television would spoil everything... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: In the programmes that you have from the regional television centres in the regional

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languages, it should be given more importance. There is no point trying to blame officials or bureaucrats for this. After all, they have to give a proper direction also. You give them targets and ask your District Collectors; they in turn ask the Superintendents of Police, and then they ask Thanedars to get people to the hospitals and there are cases where they just get certificates. There are also cases, where the same person gets operated twice or thrice for some monetary benefit. This is no way to get on to the problem. You cannot induce them into this kind of a concept by giving them temporary benefits, reward or bribery, whatever you may call. This can be totally unproductive. The psychological repercussion is very very bad. When you do it in this manner, people suspect. Why should we give them money? They should be made to understand that this is for their own benefit.

Then, incentive should be given to those who have one or two children and for more children, that they have, there should be disincentive. I am for a certain amount of disincentive for every extra child that a person has over the norm that you set. A person with a small family should be given certain incentives.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: But those who have television sets have more children and those who do not have television sets, have small families. What is the impact of this?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: My friends is unaware. The television does have an impact. If there is one television set in a village, there are at least fifty persons who watch the programme. Even in Delhi you will find that if someone has got a television set, persons from the nearby quarters also congregate there to see the programmes. In villages; it belongs to the community; at least that is so in my part of the country. I do not know the position in your area. But certainly, that is not the case.

Sir, television is very very popular. It is

also more effective than the radio and newspapers or many other things.

The rate of literacy should improve and increase. I think, this kind of a thing could also yield better results. Kerala is one of the most literate State. I do not have the figures in this regard. I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten me whether the rate of growth of population is less in Kerala than compared to other States where literacy is not that high. I am asking this question out of ignorance. But since this aspect of literacy has been mentioned, I would like to know this information. I personally feel that it is not just literacy, it is standard of living or economic conditions. It is the poor economic conditions which underlie this problem that we are faced with.

Sir, I would not like to take much of the time of the House, I would only like to say that I also share the same ideas as my colleague, Shri Ayyapu feels, that a legislation should be brought about after consultation with various sections, as I am told that sentiments of certain people are likely to be hurt. There are so many other factors also.

I am not aware of the impediments which may come in the way but I would actually prefer that after suitable consultations with the people from various sections of society, Government may come out with a comprehensive legislation to ensure that a small family norm becomes compulsory by statute. The Ministry can take some measures, maybe by issuing some administrative orders, to offer some kind of incentive to those people who have only one child or two children or whatever norm you decide upon. You should also see to it that it is not given to any person who has more number of children than that.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. The Members in

the House have been discussing the problem of population explosion which I consider to be the most serious problem of the country. If this problem is not solved in time and the decisions taken in this regard are not properly implemented the country would go to dogs.

The country is developing and nobody wants the country to lag behind we cannot deny that there has been development here though not very rapidly as the increasing population is eating into the vitals of our economic development. It makes the entire development look negligible. In view of these circumstances, the Government and the people of the country should resolve to achieve the targets laid down by them. It is not that the system of democracy in which consideration of votes or the voters opinion reigns supreme, would come in the way nor it is that if we start a work we would be defeated and others would take over the power. We should not bother about anything as the interests of the nation are above all considerations. If the country is strong, it is immaterial who wins or losses the game of power. Personal or party considerations should not have their sway. His only concern should be the welfare of country and the country would be strengthened only when we follow such policies which may in turn help the country make progress. So far as I think, our priority should be to check the increase in population. I would like to submit to the hon. State Minister that she has undertaken many programmes which have no doubt, educated people about family planning inspite of the fact that there is still a number of difficulties in achieving the target and a lot of it is ye to be done. When we talk of education it means that the people should be convinced that even if they adopt one child norm, it would not at all adversely affect them either from respect or from income point of view. It is due to poverty we are deprived of education and housing facilities to accomodate a number of members. In such circumstances, living conditions also take such turn that it adds to the number of Children in the family every year. If their standard of living was higher with adequate

means of entertainment it could always strike them even in the moments of enjoyment that without adopting the means of family planning some particular individuals had lowered their position or had to face some awful situations.

17.00 hrs.

In order to avoid such unpleasant situations we should adopt other means. Unfortunately the Government has been doing everything in every field but nothing in this regard. It is all due to the lack of their determination. China has achieved this target though it is the largest country of the world in terms of population. It seems that we are competing with China in terms of population, and it is almost certain that with the close of the 20th century and by turn of the 21st century we shall be the biggest country in this respect of number of uneducated and pauper people dying of starvation. Otherwise whatever be the system the Government should take steps to control population increase and to remove poverty of the people. There has been a lot of propaganda these days and as one of my friends just stated that television sets have been provided in rural areas. But as I have already submitted that two years back televisions were provided in schools in rural areas in U.P. with the assurance that they would educate the youth through T.V. An assurance for training the teaching staff was also given. But there are neither the viewers of the programmes nor the teachers. This useless Government has been careless to make proper use of it. Though Television sets are there but neither anybody watches them nor proper care is taken of them. Not to talk of educating the people in family planning through television. No proper use is made of them. In reply to my question, the then Minister of State Shri Ajit Panja had said that it was a State subject. The Government of Uttar Pradesh too is not different.

You may go through the figures furnished in respect of family planning. In the recent issue of the magazine 'India Today' some 5-7 days back, it was stated that a fake

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person is shown to have undergone family planning operation, another man above 60 years of age was sterilized, and still another man had undergone family planning operation twice or thrice. The officials incharge show entries of bogus cases of sterilization for a favourable posting or to get appreciation and reward from the authorities. Have you ever investigated whether the mentioned persons really exist. The Government of such a country is so inefficient that they cannot maintain even this record. Some persons are shown to have undergone sterilization four to five times and another man above 60 is shown to have undergone the same operation. Such things are very fatal to the nation. The Government should keep a strict watch in this regard and if any bogus cases are traced, the person concerned should be punished. If you ask me, I can mention a number of cases in which the same person had been shown to have undergone the family planning operation twice or thrice and even the persons above the age of 60 are also shown to have undergone such operations. If even a single offender is given exemplary punishment, such things would not be repeated. Adequate funds are allocated in the Budget for this purpose, but the major portion of it goes waste to please the media men. People are not much impressed by advertisements. During my childhood days, I used to see advertisements of Veerumal and Aibak Sahib. But I was never impressed by them to the extent to feel like consulting them in case a family member of men's fell ill. My submission is that advertisements should be effective enough otherwise the people are not impressed by them to the extent to adopt those measures. We can lament on it but mere lamenting won't do. The situation has deteriorated to such a extent that if immediate action is not taken in this regard, the situation would become worst. It is not a party issue. Though all the new borns are the children of our motherland, but we shall have to have a control on population if we want our country to prosper. We shall also have to check this wrong practice of showing

bogus names in the records. Whatever be the allocations for it in the budget; the Government should make a specific provision of increment at different intervals for Government servants on priority basis for adopting different child wise norms restricting the same in case of those having two or three children and provision if no further increment in case of the fourth one. Similarly in respect of employment opportunities, those who have more children should not allowed their entry in the Government service. Whatever difficulties come our way, we should have a very strong will power to achieve our aim. We should neither bother about losing our votes nor we should be disturbed by what others say. It is the foremost duty of the leader of the country to determine not to accept those practices which are detrimental for the development of the nation. Family Planning should be adopted even at the cost of democracy. The present rate of population growth shows that if preventive measures are not taken in this regard; people would be deprived of even the basic necessities of life.

The rate of population increase has been going high constantly. At present this growth is progressively multiplying manifold and with this speed of population increase, we will reach the mark of one hundred crores by the turn of this century and by the year 2005 it would further increase. Then its growth would be in billions.

So I thank you and appreciate the hon. Minister of State for taking up the problem with some strictness and this has raised the hopes in future. Without bothering about the results she should accomplish this task with full determination and strictness.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Rai has just stated that the government should take effective measures to implement family planning programme effectively. He is correct. Not only the Government but all the political parties will have to be bold in order to impose legal punishment for such things. (*Interruptions*)

Not only Government but the entire opposition is equally answerable to their country. The Government as well as the opposition should be ready to make their contribution in the matters of national significance. It is not that the Congress lacks boldness for it. During the first half of the year 75,76,77 efforts were made to expedite the implementation of the family planning programme. The entire Government machinery was engaged for the purpose. But the result was that some political leaders started whispering campaign among the masses they tried to vitiate the whole atmosphere by making it a political issue. Resultantly, not only the Congress Party had to face their defeat in the elections but the family planning programme too was adversely affected. It is in material that it was the cause of defeat of the Congress particularly. Because in a democratic set up the parties do win the lose at the polls. Everybody should accept this fact.

I think that as Shri Bhoi has stressed, the Government should try to adopt and implement the one family-one child norm for every couple. For this purpose, not only the Government should get prepared for it but consult all other political parties too in this regard. It would not be difficult to implement the programme effectively provided all the political groups approve it.

Sir, the question before us at present is not only that of creating awareness among the people about the Family Planning Programme. Although the Congress lost the 1977 elections, it had made efforts to implement the Family Planning Programme. It created awareness among the people and they came to realise the benefits of the small family norm. The people had voted against the Congress Party as they were swayed by momentary feelings but subsequently they realised that the Family Planning Programme was meant for their benefit only. The basic questions today is not one of creating awareness among the people about the advantages of a small family, but it is necessary to attack the traditions and conventions of the society. Advertisements

are shown on television about Nirodh etc. and people are advised to have a planned family with not more than two children. Such campaigns will of course be beneficial but it is more important to attack the very tradition's which compel the people to say that unless one has a son one's family line or dynasty cannot continue. It is the women who are more obsessed by the view that they will not have anyone to give support to them in the absence of their husbands until they have sons, and their supreme duty as wives is fulfilled only when they are able to give birth to male children. The majority of the people in the country still feel this way. It is necessary to counter such beliefs through effective advertisements. Today all sorts of tele-serials attacking politicians and political parties are shown on television. It is high time small films and serials are produced to attack such kinds of old traditions and beliefs.

Several hon. Members have given valuable suggestions here and suggested about giving incentives. Shri Kishore Chandra S. Deo suggested that a scheme dis-incentives should be introduced for those who produce more than a specified number of children. such dis-incentives could be in the form of deprivation of ration cards etc. But I think that this will not help. Instead, the bachelors and those having one child should be given incentives so that the others may feel that they should also get those benefits. This will in itself be a dis-incentive for those having more children.

The Government employees are made the scape-goats for implementing the Family Planning Programme and various incentives schemes. Though this helps in getting a fixed number of family planning cases but it is actually counter-productive. When someone is told to bring certain number of cases, he usually resorts to bringing such people who have little objection in getting sterilised. The teachers, the Patwaris, the rationing officers resort to bringing such cases in which the people have either crossed the productive age, or are already sterilised or belong to the 55-60 age group.

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

The people who are already sterilised are made to undergo sterilisation operation again and they connive with doctors and produce fake certificates to this effect. I know about a particular case of 1976 in which 600 sterilisation cases were recorded out of which 450 cases were found to be fake when investigations were conducted into them. When we put pressure on people, they will not be motivated to do a certain work. I am not suggesting that Government should do away with this method of exerting pressure altogether, but the pressure should not be to such an extent lest they should feel that if they fail to achieve the target, they will lose their jobs.

I would like to submit one more point here. The State Governments think that if the Family Planning targets are not achieved within a specified period, they may face difficulties in getting allocations and this is why, the State Governments put pressure on the implementation machinery. If a Harijan is offered a house under the 20 point programme, he is told to undergo sterilisation operation in order to get this benefit. After he gets himself sterilised, he is told that he will not get the house until he brings another such case. He brings his wife and gets her sterilised as well. This, no doubt, results in inflating the figures on paper but the targets are not achieved in the real sense. Our objective is to reduce population but if this sort of method for the implementation of the Family Planning Programme is adopted, it will not be conducive to its success. The State Governments should be instructed that Family Planning operations should not be made compulsory for the weaker sections for getting the Government benefits. If this is done, it will malign the intention behind the Family Planning Programme. The tribals are increasingly getting the impression that they are going to be the sole targets of this programme. Therefore, the State Governments should be instructed not to link the Family Planning Programme with the programmes meant for the weaker sections. The people are willing to adopt the

Family Planning methods. But proper facilities are not available in the hospitals and dispensaries for this purpose. The doctors are also not properly trained. Specialist doctors with a feeling of commitment should be posted there. In the Family Planning camps of my constituency, it has often happened that doctors do not reach their place of duty on time. If their duty is in the morning, they reach in the evening. The patients are made to undergo sterilisation operations under gas-light and 70 to 80 operations are undertaken in this way daily. Little attention is paid towards post-operation care. The doctors are not able to get relief until they complete a specific number of operations and the agents who bring such cases ensure that the doctors undertake all operations on that very day. Whatever funds are allotted to popularise this programme should be spent for providing better facilities in hospitals and incentives to the doctors. If proper medical facilities are available, people will participate in this programme in large numbers. Another important aspect connected with sterilisation operations is post operation care. It should be the responsibility of the hospital to treat patients for 2 months after the operations has taken place. I know such cases in which people were discharged immediately after the operation and were carried on a jeep upto a certain distance and then they were told to cover the rest of the 2 kms of distance on foot. This results in a lot of inconvenience and the sterilised persons developed complications. When the hospital was contacted about it, the authorities replied that those patients were discharged after being declared normal. Those, who undergo family planning operations should be given V.I.P. treatment. They should get the same facilities and medicines as are provided to the M.L.As, M.Ps and the C.G.H.S. card holders, if they happen to develop some complications. In case of failure of operation, the Government should take full responsibility for treatment of the patient. If all these aspects are kept in view, the wrong impressions which have been created will be removed and the hesitation and apprehension which exists among people about this programme will also be

removed. An awareness about the benefits of this programme has been created. The people appreciate the fact that by having a small family, they will be able to look after it in a better way, provide better education for their children and participate effectively in the nation's development. The Government should make efforts to further create awareness among the people in this regard so that more people are motivated to adopt the family planning measures.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Chairman Sir, I must thank Dr. Bhoi for bringing this Resolution. In fact, on that day, the first Resolution was my Resolution against atrocities on women. Since I had been suspended, Dr. Bhoi's Resolution got the precedence. But I think these two Resolutions may not be just accidental because this Resolution has also got something to do with atrocities on women. I will come to that. In any case, I thank him for bringing this Resolution.

The dimension of this problem need not be considered with lots of figures. I will just quote one figure. One baby is born within 1.2 seconds. That means, when each speaker is given ten minutes time and he or she gets up and sits down within ten minutes, five hundred more babies are born in India. Such is the dimension. I think about the dangerous proportion of the dimension, there cannot be two opinions. Nor can there be two opinions that in order to achieve any genuine improvement in our country, the birth-rate must be brought down very severely. The question here is, by what method. That is the question that we have to discuss.

Dr. Bhoi has made several suggestions. One is, to recognise family welfare programme as a national imperative. Everybody would immediately agree to this. Yes, it should be. What is meant by that imperative? Two types of suggestions have come. one is to have recourse to compulsion and the other is to have recourse to incentive. So far as I am concerned, in my idea of the

imperative, this compulsion does not occur. incentive is a different question. Compulsion is a different question altogether. I do not think that the process of compulsion can be the best method.

About the other suggestion, that is to set up a national Population Commission, Dr. Bhoi, I was one of those unfortunates—I do not know why—who had the advantage or disadvantage of participating recently in your newfangled Commissions and Committees like National Committee on Women, National Committees on women, National Commission on Rural Labour. After seeing the working of those Committees and Commissions, I would say that this will be unproductive unless the entire method of functioning changes. Therefore, while sympathising with his idea, I have my own reservations within the framework of its present working.

While I fully support his idea about raising the level of education of women, I have a feeling that in our understanding, in many people's understanding may be, there is an idea that the question of family planning probably depends on women. I challenge that idea very seriously. That does not mean that I am not for raising the literacy standard of women. That does neither mean that I do not think that will be helpful. But I do believe that while it is absolutely essential for family planning as a whole to raise the literacy standard of a woman—to give her better facilities of work participation and also make her more aware of the world realities—I think that if this is seen from a woman's angle, the real pinching thing will be missed because family planning will not succeed so long as our society does not consider woman equal to man which is absent today. That is imperative.

When my party did not decide upon the policy that we should adopt towards family planning, even in those days I was one of those, may be a few communists, who conducted a family planning camp in the year 1954 in the rural areas of West Bengal. Why was I forced to do that? Because the peasant

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women, among whom I used to work, would call me separately in a dingy corner and ask me: "My dear didi, elder sister, can you make some arrangements for letting us know how to control children?" I said: "Why are you so secretive about it?" One of them said: "Do you not know that if this is known to the menfolk on my house I shall never come to know what all these mean?" Therefore, I had to conduct a common meeting of men and women together on behalf of the Kisan Samiti in order to make the men recognise the necessity first. Only then I could have that Centre; otherwise, it could not have been done. Why I am saying this is that unless we really proceed from a national angle as a whole, only proceeding from women's angle will not do though women's angle must get a preference. After all, the children have to be born by women. So the whole burden falls on them. My sympathy goes very much with many of the ideas expressed by Dr. Bhoi and many other friends. Lot of good things were pointed out by Harish.

Firstly, one thing must be understood that whatever is claimed at the moment, that should be correct. For example, the erst-while health Minister, Shri Voraji, claimed that the birth rate had declined from 32.6 per thousand to 32 per thousand in 1987. This figure is questionable. Probably that is not so. That has already been hinted by Harish in his description.

About the actual performance, I find that there is 7.2 per cent decline in sterilisation rate this year. This is not a very good performance. Therefore, where from we begin? In my opinion, we must begin firstly with our conception of the total problem in its reality that it is a problem of the progress of the entire nation, both men and women. In that you give particular advantages to women but, at the same time, you also make the incentives very much applicable to the men as well. So, from that point of view, I think both the mechanism of operation as well as the incentive scheme going on at the moment should be thoroughly revised. I agree

with our goal of one-child norm. Norm is a norm. Norm does not mean compulsion. But at the same time we have to try to attain our goal from '*Hum do, hamaro do*' to '*Hum do, hamara ek*'. But it cannot be attained just like that. A lot of preparation for that has to be made.

I will, first of all, point out, like many other friends here have said, Piyus Tiraky Ji also said, that unless the general standard of living of the poor people is raised, we really will never succeed in this. This is the basic question. I have visited the four States in our country which have the worst performance. They are Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. It is not a question of politicisation. If you look at these four States, there the poor people form a very big section of the population where feudal custom and the feudal system is the strongest. Have there been land reforms in these States? Let me tell you that if you had done that, that could have become the biggest contribution to the cause of family planning. Not even you have land reforms but you also create confidence in the poor people that they need not have so many children to look after them and that the State will look after them. That feeling has to be brought in them. Today that is not being felt by them. That is the difficulty. Women, as I said earlier, need to be given special incentives.

As far as incentive mechanism is concerned, certain things have been pointed out by Rawat Ji, which I fully support. But I also want to point out that incentives have to be worked out differently for different classes of people. For example, for the poorest of the poor, the incentive has to be in the form of giving employment, that is, in all those schemes which will be related to employment—giving by the State, priority must be given to those families of those poor people who really attain the norm of a small family. This has to be strictly adhered to and they must be given priority in getting employment. You may not get the result as soon as you announce this, but if you stick to this and go on doing this, then those poor people will get

attracted. So, giving employment is the first thing.

Then, women and child health care has also been pointed out. That is also very very important.

Giving house sites is also very important. In China, they are giving the incentive of house sites to poorer sections of the population because there the employment problem is somehow much lesser than we have. In China, they are giving this incentive to the middle-class people. As has been correctly said by Dr. Bhoi, if they adopt the norm of small family, then their meritorious children will get reservation in medical and technical colleges. That is a very big incentive for the middle-class people in these days. Therefore, for poorer sections, there should be one type of incentive and for middle-class, there should be another type of incentive. These have to be meticulously worked out and I will not take the time of the House in illustrating these things. But what I mean is that for raising the standard of living of the poor people in the country, these incentives have to be carefully worked out keeping in view other factors.

Then, Sir, about the machinery, I would say that it is already working at the moment. But I think that the machinery that we have for the Family Planning today is not conducive to the best performance in this regard. Mr. Harish Rawat has mentioned that there are agents or what you call 'dalals' in the villages. We have seen that these agents bring the people to the camp from the villages. Now, if that is done at the grass-root level, at the village level, then the scheme can be successful. These people have connection with the villagers and they would be quite helpful in popularising the idea, for getting the people or for bringing the people to the camps. Therefore, in reshaping the machinery of the Family Planning, there is every necessity of giving utmost importance to the voluntary organisations not only through workers at the grass-root level in the villages but also through the industrial labour.

The present structure is bureaucracy based structure and this structure is to be completely changed and it can be done if you make serious efforts.

Thirdly, though the money allotted is not as much as is needed, generally money allotted is some what more to the Family Planning comparatively. But at the same time, it is also true that a lot of corruption is also there in this machinery. I would like the hon. Minister kindly to clarify the Government's stand on the news item that appeared in a daily. On 7th may, 1988, a news item appeared in 'Patriot'. It says that contract worth Rs. 3.25 crore was awarded in march 1988 by a senior official in the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals to M/s. Radicura Pharamaeutical Ltd., of South Korea for supply of condoms (75 million). Sub-standard condoms were supplied by this Korean firm. The official had signed the agreement for the supply of condoms on the last day of his retirement. The public sector company, M/s. Hindustan Latex Ltd. had offered a lower rate for the supply of condoms. But these people were not given the order for the supply of condoms. This is just one example.

Sir, there is also a failure in implementing the scheme either in sterilisation or using the birth-control aids and the medicines produced for this purpose are totally giving counter productive results. Therefore they are afraid of using the birth-control devices. I would therefore urge upon the Government to make concerted efforts to remove corruption in this sector. This is very important because we have to attract people and this is the question of attracting more people for bringing about appreciable result. I would therefore like this Department to go in for a thorough restructuring of its machinery, its function, its system of giving contract for the supply of condoms and other family planning aids, etc. I hope the Government will take a different attitude so that Family Planning can achieve better results. Only then we can expect to achieve the goal. And I think no amount of compulsion will help. But altogether a big nationwide consciousness or

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drive is very important and very necessary and I thoroughly agree with the uniform civil code idea, that is very important and the sooner we vote for the uniform civil code, the better it is from all points of view and also with reference to this question.

With these words, I again thank Dr. Bhoi for bringing this Resolution.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY (Bettiah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Resolution moved by Mr. Bhoi. Sir, the essential need of the hour is to have population control programme i.e. the family welfare programme. Many points have been raised by the speakers who spoke before me but I do not want to respect them. The first and the for most milestone of human life is mother, maternity and child health.

I agree with Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee who said that there was an urgent need to pay attention towards women. This year, Hon. Prime Minister has laid maximum stress on the needs of women. The primary need is to provide education and health care to women. Whenever, the Government introduced any programme, it took care to see that two things are kept distinctively separate. The most important thing is that the economic and the industrial growth should always be linked with the cultural growth. The social and the economic system also play an important role in it. If the gap between the social and the economic system is not abridged, it will not be possible to achieve the targets of family welfare programme which has been started by the Central Government as a matter of policy.

There are so many dimensions in the family welfare programme. While formulating the policy, all these things have been taken care of. The health and family welfare policy attempts to tackle all issue together and that is why emphasis has been laid on Coaching all the ills together.

The most important thing in it is the rate of adoption of family welfare methods. We talk of motivation and mention is often made of the year 1977. I would like to tell those who criticise emergency that during the emergency period, 80 lakh family planning operations were undertaken in 1977 along. Now the matter is being politicised and a point is being raised as to what was its effect. It is not good that the opposition parties and the ruling party should make it a political issue. It is such a matter which should not be politicised. For this motivation should be the guiding factor. We will not be able to achieve the targets of family welfare programme without motivation in this country. That is why more stress has been laid on motivation. Extension programmes have been launched for family welfare. Primary Health Centres have been opened for this purpose. Separate doctors have been recruited for family welfare and separate funds are being allocated. But motivation is still the utmost necessity. I am happy to note the various dimensions of motivation. There are not two opinions about the fact that the workers at the village level are doing a good job under the family welfare programme. But motivation is not that good as it is expected to be. Sometimes the question of religion comes in the way. Religion is the biggest obstacle in our country. We have our own beliefs and it will take some time before we overcome such beliefs with which we are religiously, economically and culturally attached. We want to bring down our population growth rate from 2.2. per cent to 1.3 per cent near about the growth rate of China where it is 1.2 per cent or 1.3 per cent. Our achievements on this count are not that satisfactory so far.

I was referring to the progress made in 1976-77 in this field. As many as 80 lakh cases of sterilisation had been undertaken during this period. About 90 million couple have been registered in our country as on date. In our country registration of marriage is not compulsory. The first and foremost necessity is that a registration act for marriage be enacted to make the registration of marriage compulsory. For this, there is no need for any motivation. We cannot tell

exactly how many marriages took place in a village during a year. Survey of couples is being under taken in the same manner. Survey of couples is the first and foremost necessity because the centre of reproduction starts from the couple. As per the survey, there are 90 million couples in the country. Out of this number motivation has been done in respect of 50 per cent couples only. The rate of motivation of couples is not that high in our country. The maximum stress in the matter of family planning should be laid on motivation of couples. We have not achieved much break through in this work. There is much scope for progress in this direction. Otherwise we will not be able to fulfill the requirements of our vast population which will reach 100 crores by the turn of this century. We shall not be able to provide food, clothes and shelter to them. All these points have already been taken up. As such the first and foremost necessity is that registration of marriage should be made compulsory. A bill should be brought forward to the effect making it obligatory for everybody to register his marriage. We have neither heard so far nor there was a proposal for any such legislation. But there should be a legislation of this nature. It is very necessary. Couple survey becomes necessary to know the number of couples that are coming up very year.

Age group of couples is also very important because 25 to 40 year group is the main source of reproduction. Maximum children take birth from couple of this age group. Is it possible for us to take some measures so that fertility could be reduced in this age group? It depends on our climate also. Largely depends on the environment and the weather in which we live. It is also a well known fact that fertility is also affected by environment. A lot of research is being undertaken on this subject. Vaccine plays a major role in reducing fertility. There are talks about pregnancy vaccines. A lot of things have been published in the journals and newspapers about pregnancy vaccine. I am happy to note that a lot of research work is also being undertaken in our country. It will not be a matter of surprise if pregnancy vac-

cine goes on to play a dominant role in the next one or two years. Various methods and raw material used for this purpose in our country cause reaction. The contraceptive pills have side effects and thereafter they cause toxicity. The rate of surgery we undertake is also not that good. The rate of recanalisation is also very dismaying. In foreign countries the rate of recanalisation is 80 per cent whereas in our country it is 30 to 32 per cent only. Suppose that two female children take birth in a family and there lies the big danger. Whatever we may say here, but our society is such that there is discrimination between male and female child. It will take a lot of time to bridge this gap. In the circumstances where a family has two female children, it is very difficult to make convince them even today that they should adopt family welfare methods or undergo vasectomy or tubectomy operation. It will be a far fetched idea. The most important thing is to give incentives to families having two female children. They have a lot to do for them, such as giving them marriage, arranging shelter for them, providing food etc. It is, therefore, necessary that some incentives should be given to these families. Before that the Government should undertake a separate survey for finding out what is the total number of families having two female children and what is their social and economic background. On the basis of this information, some incentives could be given to them or some money could be deposited in their name on the line of social pension scheme being run by the Government. A lot could be done under this scheme. There is a need to provide incentives to the families having two female children. The reason is that they will never under go family planning operations. Every day we come across many such cases. it is, therefore, necessary that a survey should be undertaken to ascertain the number of families having two female children.

Thirdly, let us take the case of sterilisation. Sterilisation is a very old method and all the IUCD devices have become obsolete. It is all right that we are using Nirodh. But I have come to know from journals and also

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have gone through the figures that the number of failures using Nirodh is increasing. It may be that people using Nirodh were not properly educated or as has been said by the hon. member the raw material used and condoms purchased were not of good quality. It is apparent that when this sort of things takes place, it will pose a great set back to family welfare programme. Similarly the IUCD will also lose its utility. The IUCD has almost become outdated in the rest of the world. Now we have to mostly depend on surgery or on vaccine which is being developed. It will be better the vaccine is developed in homoeopathy or in Ayurveda instead of allopathy. There are herbal medicines in Ayurveda which can check reproduction. I am an allopathic practitioner. But I know very well that ayurvedic system is being developed in our country. Our hon. colleague Dr Bhoi is also doing work in this field. I had been to the Ayurvedic university of Gujarat. I saw for myself that research work on ayurvedic herbs being conducted there has been yielding good results. I also saw that the research work is running well in Bombay. May God help us to invent a method based on ayurvedic herbs. The hon. Member also said in his speech that there are trees, the bark of which could be used for sterilisation. They reduce fertility. There are other trees also, the barks of which increases fertility. In this way, nature has gifted us the means to increase and reduce fertility. As has been said earlier, nature also helps us in maintaining balance and equilibrium. I feel that more attention should be paid to Ayurveda. Research should be conducted in this system by giving more incentives and allocating more funds. If we are successful in this effort it will be the biggest achievement of the country, especially for our country where the population is likely to be at par with China or even surpass that figure by the turn of this century and I understand that by the year 2015, our population will reach the figure of about 125 crores. This is the position. As such there is a need to pay attention to it. If we look at its dimensions and go through the figures of every 10 years, we will find that

the population growth rate has been 2.2 per cent. If we look at its long term effect, it will be revealed that the growth has been at geometrical proportion. It is a fact to reckon with. If we go through the records from 1921 to 1988, we will come to know that the population growth rate has been 3.2 per cent during these years. There are also instances when the growth rate has been 4 per cent. Ours is a developing country and it is not a matter of satisfaction that the growth rate should be 2.2 per cent. Of course the growth rate of all the developing countries has been 3 to 4 per cent and in certain cases it is even 5 per cent. We are in a better position as compared to them but we should not be satisfied with this lot. as far as population is concerned our country stands second in the world. In some way or the other we have cut down on the growth rate of our population. I shall cite some figures to illustrate my point. These figures are based on research conducted by Dr. Gupta and taken from book written by him. According to him, it is important to see as to what extent the birth rate declines if 7 sterilisations per thousand persons are done which would amount to 2.5 million sterilisations per annum. In 1951 the growth rate was 40.2 per thousand persons. To reduce it to 33.2 we need 25 lakh sterilisations per annum. This results in an almost 7.2% or 7.3% reduction in growth rate. 80 lakh sterilisations were done in 1975 -76. Only if we do sterilisations in the same ratio, can we achieve our target growth rate of 25% per thousand persons per annum. The growth rate had decreased to almost 10% in the period when 80% lakh sterilisations were done. Hence, if we organise 80 lakh sterilisations we can achieve some success.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pandey, will you conclude in a minute.

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY: Sir, I will continue next time. I have got so many points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You can continue next time.