

Sex discrimination cause of poor health of girls and women

1475. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that in a recent review the UNS-EF has cited sex discrimination as a major contributing factor for the poor health of girls and women in societies around the world, including India;

(b) if so, what measures have been suggested in the review to combat this evil; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Loans advanced by SDFC

1476. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the functioning of Shipping Development Fund Committee is deteriorating and that the recovery of loan instalments are so regular and large scale deferment is being allowed by officials;

(b) whether it is also a fact that orders for purchase of new ships from the shipyards are being cancelled by the ship owners (one from Goa) and the policy of giving loans for purchase of fish trawlers is not proper and people are diverting the loan money for other purposes; and

(c) what are the steps being taken by Government to streamline the working of the Shipping Development Fund Committee and also to recover

the loans already advanced by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Some Shipping Development Fund Committee loans, shipping companies have defaulted in repayment of SDFC dues arising out of long drawn world-wide recession in the international shipping market. Government have granted reschedulement for defaults in payment of instalments of loan and interest committed by shipping companies upto March, 1983;

(b) There have been cases involving two companies who have either refused to take delivery of the ships ordered on Indian shipyards or not willing to comply with the contracts.

Loans for the purpose of acquiring fishing trawlers are sanctioned on the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and disbursed direct to the concerned shipyard against irrevocable bank guarantee given in favour of SDFC. This procedure for granting loans to the shipyard under bank guarantee does not provide scope for diversion of funds by the fishing company. However in case of Fishing Concern diversifying to other activities against the terms of contract has come to notice. This is being looked into by Agriculture Ministry.

(c) Government has decided that the mechanism of providing credit to Shipping industry through SDFC has ceased to be relevant in the present context. It has been decided that like other financial organisations, funding and financing of ships should also be handled by the Ministry of Finance through an appropriate finance institution.

Steps taken by SDFC to recover dues from defaulting shipping company include issuance of notices to all defaulting shipping companies to pay the defaulted amounts and foreclosure of mortgages against the ships

of companies and getting them sold through courts and adjusting the sale proceeds towards the defaulted amounts.

Poor response to family planning in the States

1477. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to Mate:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of massive investment and sustained campaign family planning and small family norm is not being adopted on a large scale in States like U.P., M.P., Bihar and Rajasthan;

(b) whether it is a fact that the southern States, Maharashtra, Haryana and the Union Territory of Delhi are far ahead of other States in achieving the family planning targets:

(c) what plans are being chalked out by the Central Government for effective implementation of the small family norms, especially in the villages in the northern region so as to bring down the birth rate; and

(d) whether Government would also consider the feasibility of issuing appeals to some religious groups, who are not enthusiastic about family planning, so that family planning is acceptable to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE, DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Acceptance of small family norm depends upon the status of women including literacy and educational level especially of the mothers, employment child survival rates, social security and other socio-economic factors embracing a wide spectrum of development. The acceptance of small family norm, therefore, varies from State to State. The couple protection rate in respect of different States (UTs is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) A well designed strategy for achieving population stabilisation has been developed. As part of the strategy, the small family norm is sought to be achieved through education and motivation and structured material and non-material incentives. In order to enhance acceptance of family planning in lagging States greater efforts will have to be made for all round improvement in the socio-economic developmental status including the position of women in the society backed by communication efforts directed at the eligible couples in the States.

(d) Family Welfare Programme is being promoted on a voluntary basis among all sections of the population. Efforts are made to enlist support to the Programme, of opinion leaders from various walks of life, including the religious leaders through the press, inter-personal communication, orientation training camps, involvement of voluntary Organisations.

Statement

Couples effectively protected as on 31-3-1986

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Agency	% Protected*
1. Major States (Population 1 crore or more)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	.	34.6
2.	Assam	.	25.4
3.	Bihar	.	18.9
4.	Gujarat	.	48.2
5.	Haryana	.	52.1
6.	Karnataka	.	36.3
7.	Kerala	.	41.1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	.	31.9
9.	Maharashtra	.	53.0
10.	Orissa	.	34.5
11.	Punjab	.	53.5
12.	Rajasthan	.	23.1
13.	Tamil Nadu	.	41.0
14.	Uttar Pradesh	.	29.5

*Figures Provisional