

study has concluded that the National Health Education Programme has failed to impart correct knowledge about protection against various infectious diseases like TB, cholera, typhoid and polio which take heavy toll of life; and

(b) If so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research have received a study report from an Investigator in receipt of a study grant from Indian Council of Medical Research in which some shortcomings in the health education programme in three states have been highlighted. The Indian Council of Medical Research are yet to appraise the report, the methodology used and the validity of the conclusions drawn. It is, therefore, premature to consider taking any action.

Malnutrition in the Country

1804. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 55 per cent children are affected by malnutrition in the country;

(b) whether any steps are being taken to provide cheap and balanced diet or any other model diet for the masses; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The following supplementary feeding programmes for pre-school children are implemented by the Government of India in an attempt to bridge the calorie gap observed in their home diets:

Ministry of Welfare:

(1) Balawadi Nutrition Programme.

(2) Special Nutrition Programme.

(3) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

Ministry of Human Resources

(4) Mid-day meal programme in primary schools.

In addition the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies is involved in several projects to improve the nutrition situation in the country:—

(1) Development of low cost weaning foods for supplementary feeding;

(2) Education, extension and publicity activities;

(3) Fortification and enrichment programmes such as salt with iron; Sago with proteins, vitamins and minerals and with Vitamin 'A'.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the following intervention programmes;

(1) Prophylaxis programme to prevent nutritional anaemia in mothers and children;

(2) Prophylaxis programme against blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency;

(3) National Goitre Control Programme.

Appointment of the Air India General Sales agent in London

1805. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has terminated the contract of its General Sales Agent in London and appointed another;

(b) whether the work load on the General Sales Agent at London is considerable; and

(c) if so, what is the extent of the work involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Air India has given a six-month written notice to its General Sales Agent in London on 21st October, 1985 to terminate the appointment effective from April 30, 1986. Air India has not yet appointed any other General Sales Agent.