

- (ii) Promoting Intra-uterine Device (IUD-380A) intensively as a spacing method because of its longevity of 10 years and advantage over other IUDs.
- (iii) Promotion of acceptance of 'No Scalpel Vasectomy' to ensure male participation has also been part of NRHM strategy on population stabilisation.
- (iv) Increasing the basket of choice by systematically and carefully introducing new and effective contraceptives in the programme.
- (v) National Family Planning Insurance Scheme has been started since November 2005 to compensate the sterilisation acceptors for failures, complications and deaths and also to provide indemnity insurance cover to doctors.
- (vi) Compensation package for sterilisation was increased in September 2007 i.e. in vasectomy from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1500/- and in Tubectomy from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1000/- in public facilities and to uniform amount of Rs. 1500/- in accredited private health facilities for all categories for vasectomy.
- (vii) The outreach activities through the institution of ASHAs and Monthly Village Health and Nutrition Days under NRHM also help towards population stabilisation.
- (viii) The Santushti strategy implemented through Janasankhya Sthirata Kosh provides private sector gynaecologies and vasectomy surgeons and opportunity to conduct sterilisation operations in Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Medical education norms

1459. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the seven member committee that replaced the Medical Council of India recommended for reaching medical education norms including 100 additional seats in each medical college across the country;
- (b) whether the committee has also recommended raising retirement age of teachers and easing land requirement norms for campuses and hostels; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c)
The Central Government in consultation with Medical Council of India (MCI), has raised the ceiling on MBBS seats from 150 to 200/250. Besides the Central Government, in consultation with the Board of Governors of MCI, has made various amendments in MC's regulations relaxing bed strength, bed occupancy, faculty requirement etc. Separately, to address the shortage of faculty, the Central Government has raised the maximum age limit from 65 to 70 years upto which a person can be appointed or granted extension or re-employed in service against the post of medical faculty and allowed persons possessing DNB qualification for appointment to various faculty positions in medical colleges. These amendments in MCI regulations would facilitate increase of MBBS seats from 150 to 200/250 in each medical college.

Main features of the HIV/AIDS Bill

1460. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWAN1: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has cleared the HIV/AIDS Bill;
- (b) if so, the details of changes made in the original draft of 2006; and
- (c) the main features of the draft bill and how far it would be effective in reducing HIV/AIDS cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Bill has not yet been finalized.

Un Aid for population control

1461. SHRI RAASHID ALVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total funds of the United Nations (UN) contributed to India for population control in the last three years;
- (b) the rate of growth of population; and
- (c) whether UN funds have been used according to the norms?