

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures in place for preventing this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY) : (a) and (b) The accepted and tolerable limits of metal contaminants, pesticides etc. are prescribed under Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

(c) and (d) The Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) a joint WHO- FAO Expert Group, has assessed detailed risk assessments based on which, harmful effects, safe limits, margins of safety, acceptable daily intakes of all the permitted additives and preservatives are arrived at.

(e) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India issues advisories to all States/U.Ts to collect food samples for testing them for the presence of contaminants, residues and toxins including toxic chemicals (pesticide residues, heavy metals, crop contaminants).

Life-style related diseases amongst children

4258. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :
SHRI N.K. SINGH :

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of schools going children are suffering from life-style related diseases, particularly diabetes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any school health programme and also launched diabetic screening scheme for the school children across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with their status of implementation in various States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Yes. Several studies have contributed to overwhelming evidence that indicates the increase in type 2 diabetes amongst children and adolescents. Major risk factors of diabetes are un-healthy diet, obesity and lack of physical exercise.

(c) and (d) The School Health Programme (SHP) under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) as the public sector programme specifically focused on school

going children and adolescents in the 6-18 years age group enrolled in Government and Government aided schools is already in place.

The SHP was launched to address the health needs of school going children. The Program at the National level has been developed to provide uniformity / guidance in implementation of operational framework for State initiatives. The National School Health Programme includes biannual health service provision through screening, health care and referral for disease, deficiency and disability. The main focus is to address the health needs of children, both physical and mental, and in addition, it provides for nutrition interventions, physical activities and counselling. Identified children, who require further service support, are connected with secondary and tertiary facilities within Public Health Infrastructure. Weekly supervised provisions of Iron-Folic acid tablets and biannual deworming is included.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI has also initiated a school-based screening program for diabetes on pilot basis in six Districts namely Nainital (Uttarakhand), Theni (Tamil Nadu), Nellore (Andhra Pradesh), Dibrugarh (Assam), Bhilwara (Rajasthan), Ratlam (Madhya Pradesh). Fund to each district has been released for the purpose. The screening is primarily focused on school children of 1st to 10th standards in the age group of 5 to 15 years. The screening programme is in progress in the above cited 6 Districts.

Setting up of new medical colleges

4259. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :
SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR :

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

(a) the number of proposals to set up new medical colleges and starting of new post graduate medical courses, increase of seats in existing medical colleges and increasing seats in post-graduate medical courses in Gujarat which are pending with the Medical Council of India (MCI) as on date; and

(b) by when these proposals will be approved by the MCI?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the Medical Council of India, 03 applications each for establishment of new medical colleges and increase of MBBS seats in existing medical colleges in Gujarat have been received. The last date for grant of permission is 15th June, 2012 for the academic year 2012-13. The applications received for starting/increase of postgraduate broad speciality courses for the academic year 2012-13 are not pending with the MCI.