

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C. P. JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance have forwarded a report of the World Bank's Institutional integrity unit alleging that some companies executing World Bank funded projects have committed sanctionable practices.

(c) and (d) Ministry has constituted a committee to conduct an enquiry and submit a report.

#### **UID Numbers issued to Illegal Migrants**

\*310. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that inclusion of all Indian residents in the Unique Identification number scheme would present a threat to the nation's security by giving illegal migrants rights of citizens;

(b) if so, reaction of the Government; and

(c) whether Government has factored in illegal immigrants staying in various parts of the country before giving UID number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Aadhaar is a unique 12 digit number which is being issued to all residents of India as a developmental initiative. Determination of citizenship is under the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the Rules framed thereunder. Aadhaar does not confer citizenship nor does it by itself confer right of citizenship for illegal migrants, which will be determined by the relevant statutory and implementing authorities. Hence, compromise of national security due to enrolments under the UID project does not arise.

#### **Under-nourished Children**

311. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry's attention has been drawn to recently published UN report that 77 per cent children below 5 years age are severely malnourished and under-nourished;

(b) if so, the details thereof with a list of both urban and rural children;

(c) whether the Ministry is actively considering to take some urgent measures with a view to bring down the percentage of under-nourished children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (d) The Government is not aware of any UN report indicating 77% children under 5 years as severely malnourished. As per the National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3), published in 2005-06, 42.5% children under 5 years are underweight and 69.5% are anemic. In urban and rural areas, prevalence of underweight in children is 32.7% and 45.6% while anemia is 63% and 71.5% respectively.

Malnutrition is manifestation of several underlying factors & causes and is complex, multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature. The approach to dealing with the nutrition challenges has been two pronged: First is the Multi-sectoral approach for accelerated action on the determinants of malnutrition in targeting nutrition in schemes/programmes of all the sectors. As the multi-sectoral approach takes some time to show results the second approach is the direct and specific interventions targeted towards the vulnerable groups such as children below 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers.

The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition particularly among children and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through State Governments/UT Administrations. The schemes/programmes include the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, new schemes on a pilot basis such as the Rajiv Gandhi Schemes for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA and the Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY) as the Direct targeted interventions. Besides, the indirect Multi-sectoral interventions include Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Drinking Water Programme etc. All these schemes have potential to address one or other aspect of Nutrition. Several of the existing schemes/programmes including ICDS have been expanded/universalized just before or during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, hence, the results are likely to be visible after sometime.

Further, some of the recent decisions by the Government to improve the nutrition situation have been to (i) strengthen and restructure ICDS with special focus on pregnant and lactating mothers and children under three (ii) prepare a multi-sectoral programme to address the maternal and child malnutrition in selected 200 high-burden districts (iii) launch a nationwide information, education and communication campaign against malnutrition and (iv) bring strong nutrition focus in programmes in sectors like health, drinking water supply and sanitation, school education, agriculture, food & public distribution.

In addition, the proposed National Food Security Bill, will also contribute towards food security. With the continuing attention to nutrition, the targeted interventions and the cumulative effect of various schemes including new schemes, the undernutrition levels are expected to show a declining trend.

#### **Indians living abroad**

\*312. SHRIMATI KONIMOZHI : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of Indians living abroad, country-wise;
- (b) whether there are countries where there is a significant number of overseas Tamil population and details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has considered setting up a special cell, along the lines of Non-Resident Keralites' Affairs Department, to help Tamil workers abroad and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) and (b) The estimated population of the Indian Diaspora is about 25 million spread over more than 110 countries. No break up of figures of Overseas Indians on regional or provincial or linguistic basis/groups is maintained by this Ministry.

(c) A letter was written by the Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs to various State Chief Ministers including the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 20th February, 2008 regarding the setting up of a Non-Resident Indian (NRI)/People of Indian Origin (PIO) Grievance Redressal Cell headed by a senior officer in the Police Directorate of the respective State with the responsibility of attending to complaints/disputes/grievances received from NRIs/PIOs for immediate attention, investigation and possible assistance.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu appointed an Inspector General of Police (Welfare) on 25.06.2008 as the Nodal Officer of the State Headquarters dealing with/ attending to complaints/disputes/grievances received from Tamil Non Resident Indians/ PIO for immediate attention, investigation and possible assistance.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police, (Headquarters) of the State Government of Tamil Nadu is entrusted to look after the matter in the Commissionerate, and Additional Superintendents of Police are nominated in the Districts to look after the subject. All the concerned officers of the State Government of Tamil Nadu have been instructed by the State Government to pay immediate attention to the grievance of Tamil NRIs/PIOs whenever they approach the authorities with their problems.

Besides, the Overseas Manpower Corporation Ltd. (OMCL) (A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking) promotes the employment of Indian manpower in foreign