

Problem of hypertension in youths

4649. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that as per World Health Organisation (WHO) reports, one-third population of Indian youth belonging to age group of 20-35 years is suffering from hypertension;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to combat this situation because hypertension in youth can be serious problem as regard to their health, social and family concerns; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) As per World Health Organisation (WHO) report, 2012, one in every three adults in India aged 25+ years suffers from raised blood pressure.

(b) Government has launched the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) in July, 2010 during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Programme aims at reducing the burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which are major factors reducing potentially productive years of human life, resulting in huge economic loss. The programme has been launched in 100 identified Districts in 21 States.

Government of India has enacted the Anti-tobacco Law, (The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act) (COTPA 2003) with a view to discourage consumption of tobacco products by imposing various regulatory measures. Further, under food safety regulations, tobacco products such as Gutkha and Pan Masala containing tobacco and Nicotine have been prohibited. Government of India has also launched the National Tobacco control Programme (NTCP) in 2007-08 which, at present, covers 42 districts in 21 States.

Awareness generation activities undertaken by the State Governments have also been supplemented by the Ministry. In addition, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities through Prasar Bharati under the 'Swasth Bharat Programme' are also being carried out for various non-communicable diseases including Hypertension/High Blood Pressure.

(c) Does not arise.