

**Demographic changes**

2368. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the demographic change in various States due to difference of fertility rates between different religions, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating two-child policy so that the existing ratio between different religions does not change to large extent; and
- (c) what steps have been taken by Government to encourage population control in certain religions and communities which show a higher population growth rate in the last couple of decades?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) No. Family Planning programme in India is voluntary irrespective of any caste, creed of religion.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

**Country's ranking in health indicators**

2369. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR:

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India on the first global analysis of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in terms of health indicators, has been ranked at 143rd place in a list of 188 countries, far behind Sri Lanka and China;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that countries like Sri Lanka, Iraq, Syria, Libya and others that have eliminated malaria scored 100 on that health indicator while India registered only 10 points;
- (c) whether there is any roadmap being proposed to improve the position of India in the medium term; and
- (d) if so, the details of the roadmap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) Yes, in a study titled "Measuring the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 188 countries: a baseline analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015" published in 'the Lancet', placed India, at 143rd position behind Sri Lanka and China. It is also reported in the same article that countries like Sri Lanka, Iraq, Syria, Libya and others that have eliminated malaria scored 100 on that health indicator while India registered only 10 points.

(c) and (d) A National Consultation on "Transitioning from MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) to SDGs" was organized by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with WHO and other development partners in New Delhi in May 2016. One of the intended objectives of the consultation was State/regional levels consultations involving key stakeholders to build a shared understanding, approach and vision. A Delhi Declaration was signed by the Secretaries of Health of the States/UTs wherein they have committed to work collaboratively towards achievement of the SDG-3, acknowledging that health and wellbeing are core pillars of happier society, economic growth and sustainable development. The Secretaries also affirmed that strengthening health systems and universal primary health care are non-negotiable strategies towards Universal Health Coverage.

A National Task force on SDG-3 has been set up by the Ministry with the Terms of Reference as under:—

- (i) Develop the monitoring framework for SDG-3 in India with a rollout plan
- (ii) Support the States with rollout of the SDG health agenda
- (iii) Set up review mechanisms.

#### **Law for punishing food adulteration**

2370. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN:

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to stop completely the large scale adulteration like spraying pesticides in food and vegetables;
- (b) whether Government proposes to bring stringent law to punish those who adulterate the food and vegetables; and