

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2345
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH MARCH, 2021**

NATIONAL IODINE DEFICIENCY DISORDERS CONTROL PROGRAMME

**2345 SHRI SANJAY SETH:
SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:**

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

- (a) whether Government has observed World Iodine Deficiency day
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the theme of the event and initiatives taken by Government to make the event successful
- (c) whether Government is implementing National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP)
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the achievement made by NIDDCP in controlling iodine deficiency since its inception
- (e) the challenges faced by Government in controlling iodine deficiency among people and
- (f) the steps taken or being taken by Government to control thyroid disorders among women who suffer most from hypothyroidism?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Yes. Under National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP), Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day is being observed every year on 21st October in all the States/UTs.

In the year 2020, several initiatives were taken by the Government including –

- a. Communication from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was issued to all States/UTs, emphasizing to generate awareness about Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDDs) and their prevention and benefits of Iodized salt etc. through IEC in the States/UTs on this Day by following the Guidelines for Covid-19 prevention.
- b. One Video spot and one Audio/Radio jingle in Hindi and in respective regional languages on IDD were provided to all States/UTs. These were telecasted/broadcasted by States/UTs.
- c. Financial assistance was given to the States/UTs to observe this day.
- d. IDD Messages were released on Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's (GOI) Twitter handle.

(c) to (e).: National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) is being implemented in all the States/UTs to prevent and control IDD in the entire country. For effective implementation of the programme, financial assistance is provided to all States/UTs for establishment of State/UT Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Cell and IDD Monitoring Laboratory, conducting district IDD Surveys/ Resurveys, health education and publicity to create awareness about IDD, promoting consumption of adequately iodated salt and monitoring of Iodine content of salt through salt testing kit at the household/community level.

The significant achievements under NIDDCP are :-

- Over the years, the Total Goiter Rate (TGR) in the entire country has reduced significantly.
- The production and supply of Iodized salt in the country during 2019-20 was 67.02 Lakh Tonnes and 64.35 Lakh Tonnes, respectively.
- For effective implementation of National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, 34 States/UTs have established Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Cells and Iodine Deficiency Disorders monitoring laboratories in their State Health Directorate.
- Consumption of Iodated salt at household level has increased to 93% as per NFHS - 4 conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2015-16.
- The Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS) conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (2016 - 2018) indicated that there was adequate level of Iodine intake which is essential to prevent Iodine Deficiency Disorders including Hypothyroidism.

(f): NIDDCP is being implemented with the broad Objectives:-

- (i) To bring down the prevalence of IDDs to below 5% in the country and
- (ii) to ensure 100% consumption of adequately Iodated salt (>15ppm) at household level.

Following steps have been taken by Government to control thyroid disorders among women who suffer most from hypothyroidism:-

- NIDDCP is being implemented in all the States/UTs of the country for entire population including women.
- National Guidelines for screening of Hypothyroidism during pregnancy were released by Maternal Health Division of this Ministry in December, 2014 and are available on the website of NHM.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), Pregnant women are screened for hypothyroidism on 9th of every month.