

लगभग यही स्थिति है। ऐसे में यह आवश्यक है कि उत्तरांचल में भी महिलाओं के उत्थान की वैसी ही योजनाएँ प्राथमिकता से चलाई जायें। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि महिलाओं के उत्थान की योजनाओं को पूर्वोत्तर प्रदेश की भाँति उत्तरांचल में भी लागू किया जाये।

Impact of Aids on Weaker Sections In India

MISS MABEL REBELLO (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, AIDS is a big public health problem in India. The impact of this disease is found more on the weaker sections of the community due to their poor economic condition and increased vulnerability. Recent estimations show that the infection rate is very high among the adult population in India. The estimation of NACO in 1999-2000 reveals that the HIV infection rate in adult population is 0.7 per cent, around 70 lakhs. The striking thing is that, about 89 per cent of the reported cases are occurring in the sexually active and economically productive age group of 18-40 years. Most of them are representatives of economically and socially weaker sections of the population like sex workers, male clients of sex workers, migrant labour, drug addicts, truck drivers, etc. Therefore, repercussions of AIDS reflect in the economic security of these people at the individual level and at the family level. The economic security of the family is getting collapsed and it leads to poverty and disruption of family life, when the earning member of the family becomes the victim of this dreadful infection. The Government initiatives regarding this problem are limited to the activities of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the National AIDS Control Programme only. It is noted that most of the intervention from Government's side are focussing on IEC and preventive measures like condom promotion. Little attention is being paid to the rehabilitative services and economic emancipation of the victims. This is also equally important, as disease prevention measures. Therefore, there is a great need to incorporate these aspects also in Government intervention.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

Declining level of ground water in Northern India

श्री हरेंद्र सिंह मलिक (हरियाणा) : सभापति महोदय, मेरा विशेष उल्लेख भूजल स्तर नीचे जाने से उत्पन्न स्थिति के विषय में है। महोदय, उत्तर भारत में भूजल स्तर लगातार नीचे जा रहा है। पिछले कई साल से मुजफ्फरनगर, मेरठ, बागपत, सोनीपत आदि कई स्थानों में भूजल स्तर 100 से 105 फुट नीचे जा चुका है। विशेषज्ञों की राय है कि आने वाले सालों में यदि कारगर कदम न उठाए गए तो इन क्षेत्रों में भूजल दुर्लभ हो जाएगा। आज आम