

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 965
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2016**

DEFICIENCY AMONG CHILDREN

965. SHRI DHARAMBIR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of common prevalence of eye defects, tooth decay and white hair among children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such diseases among children?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b): As reported in different surveys, the prevalence of dental caries varies between 50-60 percent among Indian school children and prevalence of undetected vision problems in preschool children is estimated to be 5-10 percent.

(c): Under Rashtriya Bal Swasthaya Karyakram of National Health Mission, the children in the age group of birth till 6 years are screened twice a year at anganwadi centres and children of 6 years to 18 years enrolled in Government and Government aided schools are screened once a year by dedicated Mobile Block Health Teams consisting of two AYUSH doctors (one male and one female), one ANM and one pharmacist. Dental Caries and Vision defects are included under this screening and their management is also done at appropriate level of health care under National Health Mission.