

# MADHYA PRADESH'S INITIATIVE MEANINGFUL FOR ERADICATION OF MALNUTRITION: DR SHAH

■ Staff Reporter

PLANNING Commission of India member Dr Mihir Shah called on Chief Secretary R Parasuram at Mantralaya here on Thursday. Dr Shah apprised himself in detail about Atal Child Health and Nutrition Mission started in the State on October 25, 2010.

Dr Shah lauded objectives of the mission and hoped that the positive efforts made for removing malnutrition among children will meet with success. Dr Shah said that efforts should be intensified with community participation for ensuring better health and nutrition of children.

Dr Shah lauded the way Chief Minister Chouhan made serious dedicated efforts for eradication of malnutrition. Launch of Atal Child Mission is a source of inspiration

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for other states. The Planning Commission member said that hopes of ensuring effective results become high if projects based on concrete research are implemented with a well planned strategy. Chief Secretary R Parasuram informed Dr Shah that rate of malnutrition has been found higher in 15 districts of the state on the basis of survey of National Nutrition Institute, Hyderabad.

In view of this, special attention is being paid to eradication of malnutrition over there. Last year, success has also been achieved in reducing the number of under-weight chil-

dren in these districts. The Mission has set target of reducing malnutrition by 12.6 percent to the level of five percent by year 2015 and fully eradicate it by year 2020. Besides, the state has also achieved considerable success in constantly reducing maternal and infant mortality rate.

Principal Secretary Woman & Child Development B R Naidu gave in-depth information about the mission. He also informed about training programme for Anganwadi workers with the cooperation of UNICEF.

Principal Secretary Health Praveer Krishna threw light on role of health workers in eradication of malnutrition. Additional Chief Secretary M M Upadhyay, Secretary Planning S R Mohanty, Mission Director D D Agrawal and concerning officers were present on the occasion.