IMPLICATION OF THE STUDY

Summary of the key findings

Implications

Part 1: Pregnant Mothers

- 1. Mild to Moderate deficiency exists amongst Pregnant mothers in all the three districts of Uttarakhand.
- 2. As the trimester of pregnancy increases the median UIC level decreases because of the increased requirement of iodine as the trimester progresses.
- 3. Low consumption of adequately iodized salt.
- 4. Iodized salt is not enough to have adequate status of iodine of pregnant mothers
- 1. Screening of all pregnant mothers during early gestation using median UIC level and TSH which can result in identifying pregnant mothers who may be at risk for developing hypothyroidism.
- 2. The government should take initiative in implementation of the screening of pregnant mothers.
- 3. As the universal salt iodization may not be adequate during pregnancy, we need to prepare pregnant mothers with multi vitamin containing iodine.
- 4. Pregnant mothers should be given awareness about the importance of iodine during pregnancy and adverse affects associated with iodine deficiency.

Part 2: Neonates

- 1. High prevalence of iodine deficiency amongst neonates of three districts of Uttarakhand state using WHO cut-off.
- 2. Presence of two cases of neonatal hypothyroidism
- 1. Need for neonatal screening programme in India for early detection of children with Iodine Deficiency.
- 2. Introduce a surveillance system for screening inborns for hypothyroidism and for suspected cases of iodine induced thyrotoxicosis including provision of management guidelines.

Part 3: School age children

- 1. Iodine deficiency is well on its way to be eliminated amongst school age children in all the three districts of Uttarakhand.
- 2. All the three districts are in transition phase from iodine deficiency to iodine sufficiency.
- 3. Low consumption of adequately iodized salt.
- 1. The national iodine deficiency disorder control programme needs to: improve the monitoring of the salt at the production and whole sale level/retail levels throughout Uttarakhand state.

Part 4: Adolescent Girls

- 1. All the three districts of Uttarakhand districts are in transition phase from iodine deficiency to iodine sufficiency.
- 2. Low consumption of adequately iodized salt amongst population residing at three districts of Uttarakhand.
- 1. Monitor and supervise the programme more intensively and increase the awareness of the community regarding usefulness of iodized salt.
- 2. Educating adolescent girls about the importance of iodine as they are the future mothers.