

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF JAIPUR TIMES (IN JAIPUR CITY ONLY)

Report: 50% of state don't have access to iodized salt

Jaipur: "Rajasthan is the second largest edible salt producer in the country yet more than 50% of its population do not have access to adequate iodized salt", an expert said at a salt meet in the city on Thursday. A two-day meet has been organized under the Unicef programme of Sustained Elimination of Iodine Deficiency (Iodine Network) in the city. It was attended by experts from World Food Programme (WFP) among others including salt commissioner of the Union government.

Experts from all over world believe that to achieve the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in India, the country has to increase their effort to improve socio-economic indices like malnutrition, maternal and child mortality and iodine deficiency dis-



The panel discussing iodine deficiency

orders. "In Rajasthan much needs to be done as far as universalization of iodised salt is concerned", said Nicholas Alipui, director of programmes, Unicef, New York.

In rural and tribal areas of Rajasthan, very small population have the access to the standard salt, Nicholas said. "We are here to promote and universalize the consumption standards", stated Nicholas. **TNN**