

Cancer by potato chips and french fry

3923. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a German research report has claimed that potato chips and french fry contain acrylmid acid which can cause cancer in foetus and newly born babies through mothermilk;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a research in this regard to find the truth and direct the companies manufacturing potato chips and french fry to print warning on packets of these eatables for pregnant women and lactating mothers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) acrylmid acid has been found in a range of cooked and heat-processed foods. In Humans, studies of workers exposed to acrylmid acid through air and contact with their skin reported no evidence of cancer, though prolonged exposure to acrylmid acid is reported to cause a range of tumors in animals (rats and mice). World Health Organisation (WHO) documents also indicate that a clear picture of the nature and the level of risk from acrylmid acid does not exist.

PHCs in the country

3924. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages which are lacking this facility, State-wise; and

(c) the plan of Government for setting up of PHCs in such villages and the time by which all villages will be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) In accordance with the latest update figures available from the Rural Health Statistics in India March 2002—issued by the Department of Family Welfare, a total of 22842 Primary Health Centres were functioning in the country as on 31st March 2001. Number of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) functioning State wise, is given at Statement-I (See below).

(b) PHCs are established on population norms @ one PHC for 30,000 population in plain areas and 20,000 in tribal, hilly and desert areas.

(c) The targets for establishment of new PHCs (as communicated by Planning Commission) during Tenth Five Year Plan period, are given at Statement-II.

Statement-I

No. of PHCs Functioning State-wise as on 31.03.2001

Sl.No.	State/UT	PHCs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1386
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	65
3.	Assam	610
4.	Bihar	1648
5.	Chhattisgarh	512
6.	Goa	19
7.	Gujarat	1001
8.	Haryana	401
9.	Himachal Pradesh	302
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	337
11.	Jharkhand	561
12.	Karnataka	1675
13.	Kerala	944
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1173
15.	Maharashtra	1768
16.	Manipur	69
17.	Meghalaya	85
18.	Mizoram	58
19.	Nagaland	46
20.	Orissa	1352
21.	Punjab	484
22.	Rajasthan	1674
23.	Sikkim	24
24.	Tamil Nadu	1436
25.	Tripura	58
26.	Uttaranchal	257
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3551
28.	West Bengal	1262
29.	A&N Islands	18
30.	Chandigarh	0
31.	D & N Haveli	6
32.	Daman & Diu	3
33.	Delhi	8
34.	Lakshadweep	4
35.	Pondicherry	39
As on 31.03.2001 ALL INDIA		22842

Statement-II*Tenth Plan Targets for PHCs State-wise*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Targets for PHCs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	321
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	116
4.	Bihar	319
5.	Chhattisgarh	159
6.	Goa	4
7.	Gujarat	0
8.	Haryana	12
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0
11.	Jharkhand	115
12.	Karnataka	0
13.	Kerala	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	123
15.	Maharashtra	0
16.	Manipur	0
17.	Meghalaya	0
18.	Mizoram	0
19.	Nagaland	8
20.	Orissa	0
21.	Punjab	0
22.	Rajasthan	0
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0
25.	Tripura	38
26.	Uttaranchal	8
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0
28.	West Bengal	464
29.	A&N Islands	0
30.	Chandigarh	2
31.	D & N Haveli	1
32.	Daman & Diu	0
33.	Delhi	24
34.	Lakshadweep	0
35.	Pondicherry	0
ALL INDIA		14