

regarding blood donation from the minds of people through awareness campaigns;

(b) To train communicators to motivate healthy people to become voluntary donors.

(c) To develop computerised system for networking information about voluntary donors and operating blood banks.

Department of Science and Technology have intimated that studies have been initiated in 10 cities for determining the status of blood collection etc. The assessment of the software available for motivating the voluntary blood donors has been completed and proposals for developing new software have been taken up. Apart from this, training modules for motivators are also being developed. Proposals for computerised system for blood banks and networking have also been received from various organisations and are being examined.

Some of the activities included in this programme pertain to development of software (film, slides, posters etc.) for propagation of voluntary blood donation messages, training of communicators, creating database for networking of information etc.

5. Every year, 1st of October, is celebrated as the National Voluntary Blood donation day. Special campaigns to educate the masses on the need for voluntary donation of blood is undertaken through mass media and special camps for blood collection are organised.

6. A number of steps have been proposed for undertaking an extensive programme for Voluntary Blood Donation. A Committee of Experts have been set up to prepare a Comprehensive National Blood Policy and to work out a mechanism of the

promotion of voluntary blood donation programme on an all India basis. A scheme is being framed under the National Blood Transfusion Council for undertaking extensive training programmes for community leaders including school/college teachers, trade union leaders, prominent citizens etc. to train them as motivators for encouraging voluntary blood donation.

T.B. Deaths in the Country

1112. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual rate of tuberculosis deaths in the country in 1997 and by what percentage tuberculosis deaths rose during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government have made any appraisal of the Tuberculosis Control Programme in the country to identify the deficiencies in the Programme or its implementation resulting in its failure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the changes in the strategy contemplated by Government to bring down the tuberculosis death rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No such Study has been conducted by the Government. It is estimated that about 5 lakh deaths occur every year due to T.B.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A Nation wide review of National TB control Programme was conducted in 1992, with the assistance from WHO and SIDA. The Salient findings of the review were as under.

- (i) Less than 30% Treatment Completion;
- (ii) Inadequate Budgetary Outlay.
- (iii) Undue emphasis on X-Ray Diagnosis.

- (iv) Poor Quality of Sputum Microscopy.
- (v) Emphasis on case detection, rather than cure.
- (vi) Poor Organisational set up and shortage of Drugs.
- (vii) Multiplicity of Treatment Regimens.

(d) A Revised Strategy for effective control of T.B. was been adopted and pilot tested in different parts of the Country with encouraging success.

The objective of the Revised Strategy is to achieve over 85% Cure Rate as against existing Completion Rate of about 30%.

Apart from general improvement in Programme Management, this revised strategy involve Directly Observed Treatment (DOTs) through Short Course Chemotherapy (SCC) and improved microscopy for diagnosis.

Consultants Engaged by KVS

1113. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has engaged some retired officials as consultants;

(b) if so, the details thereof with dates of their engagements and discharge;

(c) whether terms and conditions of engagement, emoluments etc. are governed by instructions issued by D.O.P.T. dated 13th February, 1998; and

(d) if so, whether some consultants are continuing even after completion of maximum period prescribed for such engagements?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Sh. A.M.R. Moses, IAS (Retd.) was engaged on 29.11.96 and discharged on 28.2.98.

(ii) Sh. P.C. Jain, Additional D.I.G. (Retd.) was engaged on 15.3.96 and his present term is upto 30.6.98.

(c) No Consultant has so far been engaged after the receipt of instructions of Department of Personnel & Training dated 13th February, 1998.

Does not arise.

Affairs of Adi Sankaracharya Sanskrit University

1114. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation about the affairs of Adi Sankaracharya Sanskrit University of Kerala has been received; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what are the details of the grants released to the University during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) according to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission has received representation from Shri K. Vishambharan and Shri Vasudewa from Kerala alleging large-scale irregularities in the appointment of teaching and non-teaching staff of the University.

(b) As the University has not yet been declared fit to receive Central assistance in terms of the Rules framed under Section 12-B of the UGC Act, no grants have been released to the University so far.

Village Libraries set up Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme

1115. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of village libraries established under the centrally sponsored