

prevention of goitre and other diseases arising from lack of iodine, as an essential ingredient for human nutrition, the small producers of salt have not been thrown out of employment. In fact, iodisation of salt has created additional employment for the workers.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Condition of Delhi Hospitals

2668. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently he made some unannounced visits to some of the Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the condition in which he found these hospitals in regard to cleanliness, maintenance of buildings and equipment availability of drugs and the patient care by the doctors and nurses; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to tone up the deteriorating standards of the hospital services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Minister visited Safdarjung Hospital.

(b) he found certain deficiencies in the Hospital.

(c) Corrective steps taken by the Medical Superintendent, Safdarjung Hospital include:—

(1) Barbed wire in front of Casualty is being replaced with an Iron Grill;

(2) Condemnation of Unserviceable items/vehicles is in process;

(3) Construction of covered shed for parking Hospital Vehicles; in process;

(4) CPWD has been asked to clear all rubble, maintain all toilets, keep drainage lines clean, prevent collection of water from their plants, clear sewer blockages, re-

move all drooping telephone/electrical wires and fix them properly and proper maintenance of all taps/coolers/lights;

(5) NDMC has been asked to clear non-hazardous Hospital Waste daily;

(6) NDMC has been requested to restore full water supply;

(7) Trolleys have now been kept free for the use of patients.

(8) Steps are being taken for segregation of hospital waste and disposal of waste in incinerators;

In additional strengthening of the existing Emergency and Casualty Services and setting up of an Arthroscopy and Sports Injury Clinic at the Hospital have been approved by Expenditure Finance Committee/ Standing Finance Committee. Government have also approved the construction of O.P.D. Phase III (Right & Left Wing) during Ninth Five Year Plan;

130 posts of various categories have been sanctioned for Burns Ward to overcome the shortage of manpower.

Powers of Chief Nursing Officer in AIIMS

2669. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the powers of Chief Nursing Officer and Chief of Centres in AIIMS have been clearly defined;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the powers are strictly followed; and

(d) the reasons for several posts of nurses lying vacant since last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Chiefs of Centres enjoy powers of the Director, AIIMS except statutory and disciplinary powers as delegated under Regulation 33 of AIIMS Regulations 1958. The Chiefs are