

(d) if so, what are the details of such medicines;

(e) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry is reversing Drug Policy 1986 which is pro-producer and anti consumer; and

(f) if so, by when the new policy would be announced?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) The main demands made by the National Campaign Committee are:

(i) Adequate production and supply of life saving and essential drugs.

(ii) Weeding out of irrational and hazardous drugs.

(iii) Stop production and supply of sub-standard and spurious drugs, and ensure quality of drugs.

(iv) Reduction of drugs prices.

(v) Implementation of the Hathi Committee recommendations; and

(vi) Protection of Indian Patent Act, etc.

(c) and (d) No drug company is making such a high profit.

(e) and (f) The process of review of the 1986 Drug Policy is currently on.

Rehabilitation Schemes of Public Sector Drug Companies

295. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rehabilitation schemes of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and Bengal Immunity Ltd. have been finalised and approved by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND COMMUNICATION (SHRI JAIPRAKASH): (a) to (c) The rehabilitation scheme for Smith Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Calcutta is under preparation in consultation with Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI), the Scheme for Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Calcutta has been recently received from IRBI and is under consideration of the Management of the company, the scheme relating to Bengal Immunity Ltd. is under examination as it involved heavy financial support from the Central Government.

Facilities to check blood for AIDS tests

296. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities exist all over the country for any citizen to have blood samples tested with ease for AIDS and if so, the details thereof indicating the number of samples so far tested, Centre wise;

(b) what are the present estimated AIDS positive cases in the country; and

(c) whether Government consider the present facilities adequate to face the serious challenges of AIDS and if not, what are the details of action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. SHAKEELUR REHMAN): (a) Testing facilities are available in Zonal blood testing centres, surveillance centres and Referral Centres in 43 cities. Testing facilities are being expanded in a phased manner. The total number of blood samples screened upto 30-11-90 is 8,52,272 out of which 5163 are Elisa positive for HIV infection. Centre-wise list enclosed. Testing is also done in the surveillance centres for determining prevalence and trends in HIV infection in groups practising with risk behaviour. (See below)