

- (vii) A round the clock control room is functioning at NICD from 19th October, 2001 where suspected envelopes/packages are being received for tests.

Life Saving treatment for the poor

782. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that because of the prohibitive cost of cancer treatment, poor patients have to forgo life saving surgery or treatment;

(b) whether according to a study only 50 per cent of the patients are able to afford life saving treatment while the balance are left to die; and

(c) if so, the action Government are taking to ensure that life saving treatment is available to the poor who are unable to pay the cost of medicines and treatment of diseases like cancer, kidney failure etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) No data is available on treatment of cancers according to socio-economic status. The major modalities of treatment of cancer include surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy. However, the most cost-effective method is prevention and early detection of cancer.

(c) In the Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges/Government supported Regional Cancer Centres, a large number of poor patients are either being treated free of cost or at nominal charges for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in cancer treatment.

In addition to above this Ministry has a scheme namely National Illness Assistance Fund under which financial assistance is provided to people living below the poverty line suffering from serious diseases such as Cancer, Cardiac problems. Renal Disorders or other such diseases.

Vacancies of Senior Residents in Dental and Neurology Departments of AIIMS

783. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacancies of Senior Residents in Dental and Neurology Departments of AIIMS as on 1st October, 2001;

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(b) whether these have since been properly advertised; and

(c) the details of those which have since been filled up alongwith the names of new incumbents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) There is no vacant post of Senior Resident in the Department of Dental Surgery and Neurology as on 1st October, 2001 at the AIIMS. The vacancies of Senior Residents in AIIMS are notified on the Notice Board of various Medical Colleges and major Government Hospitals in Delhi. In the Department of Neurology the post have been advertised twice in a year i.e. for January / July session and filled up by merit. Dr. Pankaj Dhawan joined as Senior Resident in the Department of Dental Surgery in August 2001, Dr. Thangjam S. Singh and Dr. Isha Trikha have joined in Neurology Department in July 2001 Session.

Guidelines for providing CGHS Dispensaries

784. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued guidelines for providing CGHS Dispensaries in accordance with the area and population;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are considering / approved proposal to provide CGHS Dispensary to the thousands of Central Government residents of Vikas Puri, New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) As per the SIU Report on the Norms Study of CGHS (Allopathic) dispensaries of November 1999, there should be at least 2000 card holders (Serving / pensioners) which comes to approximately 10,000 beneficiaries in a particular area for opening of a new CGHS dispensary.

(c) and (d) Though there is a proposal for opening of a CGHS dispensary in Vikas Puri, New Delhi, yet due to constraints of manpower and resources, it will not be possible to open a CGHS dispensary there at present.