

turoopathy and Yoga are being involved in National planning of health programmes;

(b) whether Government propose to bring out a policy-statement on conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants; if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether planning for medicinal plants would be made in Eighth Plan; if so, whether any task force has been set up for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Research Councils in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Naturopathy and Yoga are basically involved in research activities, namely Drug Research, Clinical Research, Fundamental Research and Survey of Medicinal Plants etc. However, under their Clinical Research Programme, the Research Councils provide medical care to the patients through their Research Units and Mobile units. Thus, the Councils have no specific role in the national planning of health programmes.

(b) There are a number of Ministries involved in the matters relating to medicinal plants. However, as per the information available, there is no specific proposal under the Central Government to bring out a policy statement on conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants.

(c) The schemes for Eighth Plan have not been formulated as yet and no separate task force has been set up for this purpose.

Out break of Gastroenteritis in Ludhiana

1962. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether any inquiry/study has been conducted about the outbreak of gastroenteritis in Ludhiana in Punjab;

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

(c) what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) According to the information received from the state Health authorities, 16 cases with 1 death due to cholera and 530 cases with 1 death due to gastroenteritis have been reported from Ludhiana district up to end of 31st July, 1988..

The following steps have been taken to contain the spread of these diseases:

- 2,82,750 anti cholera inoculation have been carried out.
- 5 lakh halogen tablets have been distributed.
- Health education campaigns regarding personal hygiene and environmental sanitation, 50,000 pamphlets and use of audio visual media including Doordarshan has been made.
- Supply of ORS packets.
- Chlorination of drinking water sources.

Financial assistance for promotion of tourist fairs and festivals

1963. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give financial assistance to States for the promotion in tourist fairs and festivals during the current financial year; if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(b) what amount is proposed to be allotted during the current year to Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Department of Tourism has a scheme for granting financial assistance to the State Governments for promotion of fairs and festivals which attract both international and domestic tourists. During the current financial year there is a budget provision of Rs. 10.00 lakhs under this Head. The financial assistance is given on receipt of proposals from the State Governments.

(b) Allotment of funds for fairs and festivals is not made Statewise. The proposals received in this regard are considered on merit of each case.

Deformed baby abandoned in Kasturba medical college at Manipal

1964. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a case of a deformed baby' abandoned at Kas-turba Medical College, Manipal in Karnataka;

(b) whether it is a fact that the victim has a congenital deformity of phocomelia, caused by radiation or uterine infection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any similar radiation defects have come to notice near Indian Rare Earth Metals Ltd. in Kerala or around Trombay or on other Nuclear power station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Preparation of food in Aluminium Utensils

1965. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the press report that preparation of food in aluminium utensils is injurious to health; and

(b) if so the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The study quoted in the press report has not been subsequently confirmed. Until hazards of consuming food prepared and served in aluminium vessel is scientifically established by medical experts, it will not be appropriate to impose a ban on use of aluminium vessels/casseroles.

Starting of computerised air reservations

1966. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start computerised air reservations at Allahabad, Nasik, Khajuraho, Leh and Gorakhpur, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) No, Sir. Not at present.

(b) High speed data circuits required to connect CRTs (Cathode Ray Terminals) are not feasible at present at these stations.

Accommodation for the X-ray plant for CGHS, Allahabad

1967. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1522 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 1988 and state whether any suitable accommodation has been found to put