

ceive full salary as well as money from UNESCO and, if so is it legally and morally justifiable because earlier when payments were made, it was honorarium from the department itself? Never was it received from UNESCO and paid. So, the objection is, whether you accept payment when you are already receiving salary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. The question is, is it permissible under the Government Servants Conduct Rules to receive any such additional payment when you are receiving salary from the Government?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, this work is by the UNESCO and only part of the project has been taken by NIEPA. Now it is quite obvious that they were not doing their usual work in NIEPA: they were doing a special work commissioned by UNESCO and in all such cases they are paid. Whether they are Indian scholars or scholars from other countries coming here to do field work, each one of them is paid according to the UNESCO rates. What happened here was, since our people wanted to do it conscientiously, they only got half the payment. The Director even did not take anything. Actually they have sacrificed what was due to them. This is the position.

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Government appoint a review committee to go into the functioning of the NIEPA as was done in the case of NCERT?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, as things stand now, on the basis of the information and on the basis of the report sent by UNESCO, our officers have been congratulated for their credibility and for the excellent work they have done. Does it warrant any examination or inquiry?

### Mandatory tests in the blood banks

\*345. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:†

SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research has indicated that very few of the blood banks in the country undertake mandatory tests prescribed under the Drugs Act;

(b) if so, how many banks actually follow the prescribed tests and how many do not; and

(c) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to ensure strict adherence to the prescribed tests and the norms as laid down in the Act?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) According to the information received by the Indian Council of Medical Research in 1982-83 from 307 blood banks in various States and Union Territories. RH testing and HBSAG testing, two of the mandatory tests under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, are done in only 284 and 52 blood banks respectively. A statement showing the number of blood banks state-wise and the various techniques used and tests done by them is laid on the table of the House. (See below)

(c) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments to tighten up the inspection system to ensure that all the required tests are carried out by the Blood Banks and we are following up the matter.

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Krishna Kaul.

## Statement

*Number of blood banks and the various techniques used/tests done.*

State/Union Territory	No. of Blood Banks	Serum Grouping	Tube Technique	Using Anti A—B	Rh Test	HBsAg Testing
Andhra Pradesh	21	18	5	16	20	1
Assam	5	1	3	2	5	0
Bihar	10	8	2	5	9	0
Chandigarh	1	1	1	1	1	1
Delhi	7	7	3	5	7	6
Goa	3	3	1	2	3	1
Gujarat	22	17	9	9	20	2
Haryana	2	2	0	0	2	0
Himachal Pradesh	3	3	3	2	3	1
Karnataka	19	14	3	7	17	1
Kerala	30	26	4	8	29	2
Madhya Pradesh	20	12	6	7	18	1
Maharashtra	49	39	34	25	48	21
Meghalaya	2	1	1	0	2	0
Nagaland	3	2	1	3	3	0
Orissa	10	9	3	6	10	3
Punjab	8	6	1	3	8	1
Rajasthan	6	5	2	4	6	0
Sikkim	2	2	1	2	2	0
Tamil Nadu	50	40	8	37	37	11
Tripura	2	1	1	0	2	0
Uttar Pradesh	14	11	3	8	14	1
West Bengal	18	18	4	3	18	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>52</b>
Blood not tested				34.45	2.11	58.96

**SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:** Sir, may I know from the honourable Minister if the Government is aware that many professional donors of blood are sickly and suffer from all sorts of diseases including hepatitis, dormant leprosy or TB as in the case of Kanpur where the incidence of tuberculosis is very high? In addition, repeatedly bleeding the same donors leaves them weak and anaemic. The blood taken from such weak, sick or diseased donors results in the persons receiving the blood transfusion contracting the disease as well. A survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research has indicated that 22.59 per cent of the units of blood collected were from professional donors. May I know from the honourable Minister if this percentage includes the blood supplied by pathologists and doctors who cluster round the hospitals selling blood to desperate buyers at varying prices ranging from 10 to 15 times more than what they pay to the poor donors and, in the bargain, supply poor quality of blood without the mandatory test, etc? May I know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government are taking to ensure that blood-donors are subjected to medical check-up before they are allowed to donate blood to ensure healthy supply of blood?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Sir, Government is aware of the deficiencies in the testing of blood before blood is taken in the blood banks, and I have admitted these deficiencies in the answer to the main question.

Sir, blood is treated as a drug under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act in very convoluted fashion, and we are of the opinion that there is need for a separate legislation for effectively regulating the blood bank operations in the country. The Government have a very comprehensive scheme for building up the blood-transfusion infrastructure in the country and this includes tightening of the regulations. As it stands, it is possible to cancel the licences of the blood banks which do not observe the testing procedures. There again the State Governments have to act, and we have alerted and requested the State Governments to ensure that the mandatory tests are performed in all the blood banks in the country.

**SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:** May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have made any assessment of the average annual requirement of blood in the country, if so, the details thereof and what the number of private blood banks is and whether Government exercises any effective control over such banks and whether the Government are taking any steps to check the price charged by these unscrupulous blood peddlers?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Sir, Government have issued a series of instructions on improving the working of the blood banks. One part of the strategy is reducing the professional donors who give blood for money and increasing the voluntary donor participation. Sir, I do not have the exact statistics of the private blood-banks in the country. As I said earlier, the entire picture of the blood-bank system is under review. Government is aware of the problem, and we shall take steps to ensure that the blood-bank system is built up in the country in the best possible manner.

श्री रामचन्द्र भारद्वाज : मान्यवर, यह तो स्वीकारा ही गया उत्तर में कि इसकी जांच करने के लिये हमारे पास हर जगह संयंत्र नहीं है। मान्यवर, मैं बिहार से आता हूँ और खासतौर से बिहार, उत्तर प्रदेश, बंगाल, उड़ीसा, तमिलनाडु और मध्य प्रदेश ये ऐसे राज्य हैं जहाँ पर प्रोफेशनल ब्लड से काम चलाया जाता है। वहाँ पर रिलेटिव डोनर से ब्लड नहीं मिलता है। वैसे स्थिति में उसकी जांच होना आवश्यक है। जीवन दान के लिये ब्लड दिया जाता है, खून दिया जाता है लेकिन अगर उससे जीवन ले लिया जाय या इस तरह का खतरा हो तो उसको रोकने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए। इसलिये इसकी जांच जरूरी है। जो मंत्री जी ने अन्त में उत्तर दिया है कि उन्होंने इस बारे में राज्य सरकारों को भी लिखा है और इस पर अनुवर्ती कार्यवाही की जा रही है तो मैं माननीय राज्य मंत्री से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह अनुवर्ती कार्यवाही क्या की जा रही है और राज्य सरकारों की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, we have requested the State Governments to tighten up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Madhavarao Scindia, you have committed a grave error by crossing between the speaker and the Chair. You will apologise now the system.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): I apologise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Half a minute more. Will the Minister answer? Have you answered?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: I have answered, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: We shall...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Poor handling of Traffic by the Calcutta Air Port

\*346. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 451 is given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th November, 1985 and to state the factors responsible or the poor performance of the Calcutta airport in handling the traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Calcutta airport is fully equipped for handling international traffic like three other international airports. Technological advancement in the international aviation industry, enabling thereby the aircraft to overfly India or to make only one traffic call, originating of a substantial percentage of international traffic from the Southern and Northern Regions of the country destined for Gulf, and profile of traffic growth are the factors, broadly, responsible for the decline of Calcutta airport as a point of call.

##### Reservation for women in public Employments

@\*347. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Federation of Women Lawyers at their 10th biennial conference adopted a resolution asking for reservation for women in all public employments;

(b) if so, what are the details of the resolution;

(c) what action Government propose to take thereon; and

(d) what is the percentage of the total female population engaged in public employment at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The resolution calls upon the Government to give reservation to the extent of at least 30 per cent to women.

(c) The Government is not in favour of making reservation for women in public employment.

(d) Exact information is not available. However, the percentage of Central Government women employees as on 31st March, 1981 was 3.64.

##### Workshop on National Book Policy

\*348. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a three-day workshop to evolve a national book policy was held in February, 1986;

@ @ Previously Starred Question 287 transferred from the 14th March, 1986