

Lapascopal method of operation

1103. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

SHRI GHAN SHYAM SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that women all over the country have enthusiastically responded for Family Planning due to the introduction of lapascopal method of operation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the work is being hampered due to insufficient number of lapascopal machines; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to import sufficient number of such machines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) Women in certain States of the country have responded readily for laparoscopic tubal sterilisation. However, majority of sterilisation operations in the country are being performed by Mini-lap technique.

(b) and (c) Government are making efforts to train adequate number of specialists in laparoscopic procedure and helping the State Governments/Union Territories to procure sufficient number of laparoscopic equipment as early as possible.

Findings of Review Committee on SICAFEK—A Bio-Chemic mixture

1104. SHRI SANTOSH MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Review Committee was set up in 1974 to assess the effectiveness of "SICAFEK" a bio-chemic mixture claimed

to have been developed by (Dr.) (Mrs.) J. Roy Chowdhury and Dr. H. Chowdhury as the panacea for cancer, to generate regression of cancerous growth;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the said review committee; and

(c) the names of the cancer institutes, other than the Chittaranjan National Cancer Research Centre, Calcutta, using the said mixture?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not constituted any Committee to assess the effectiveness of "SICAFEK". However, the Government of West Bengal had set up a Committee in 1975 to go into the details of the drug trials. The Committee examined the results of the 'SICAFEK' trials and observed that although it had produced some regression in cases of tumor of the cervix, the number of cases so far treated was too small for any objective assessment and recommended that the drug be tried in a larger number of cases and the results evaluated before its introduction for use in hospitals could be considered. Another recommendation of the Committee was that the use of the drug may be combined with Surgery, radiation and other chemotherapeutic drugs for evaluating any improvement of results over the single therapy approach.

(c) As 'SICAFEK' is yet on trial the question of its use in other hospitals other than the Chittaranjan National Cancer Research Centre, Calcutta does not arise.

Large scale vacancies in Central Drug Organisation

1105. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Drug Organisation has not