

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Refusal of swine flu vaccine by doctors in Maharashtra

968. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the doctors and paramedical staff in Maharashtra have refused to take Swine flu vaccine and they are about to return the whole stock of vaccine sent by the Central Government to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has informed that the response to Pandemic H1N1 vaccination from doctors and paramedical workers is not satisfactory. Hence Government of Maharashtra proposed to return 30,000 doses of the unutilized vaccine (out of 34,300 doses of vaccine supplied to them). A voluntary approach was used to vaccinate health care workers.

Government of India has written to Government of Maharashtra emphasizing the urgency and has advised to State to make it mandatory to ensure that health care workers are vaccinated.

Common entrance test for UG and PG medical courses

969. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the newly constituted Board of Governors of the Medical Council of India (MCI) has proposed a common entrance test for Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) medical courses in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Board of Governors, Medical Council of India has proposed amendment in the Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 and Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 1997 for holding single eligibility cum entrance examination for admission to medical courses at Graduate and Post Graduate level. The proposals of amendment are under consideration of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Funds for Public Sector Enterprises

970. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government wants to use Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) to finance some of its social programmes;