

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Registration of death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims**

2132. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of rejected death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims, Municipal ward-wise, age-wise (such as below 5 years; 6 to 18 years; 19 to 45 years; 46 to 60 years and above) and gender-wise;

(b) the reasons for stopping registration of death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims from April, 1997 onwards; and

(c) the steps contemplated for reopening the registration from April, 1997 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Welfare Commissioner's office has informed that the details of rejected death claims are not maintained ward wise, age wise and gender wise.

(b) and (c) The Office of the Welfare Commissioner had vide Gazette Notification dated 2nd December, 1996 invited applications for claims from persons affected by the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster within a period of 60 days commencing from 10th December, 1996. This was extendable by another 60 days. The registration of death claims was accordingly stopped from April, 1997.

#### **Funds for R&D in pharmaceutical sector**

2133. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to set up a Rs. 10,000 crore Venture Capital (VC) fund to finance Research and Development (R&D) activities in the pharmaceutical sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) is in the process of

examining a proposal to set up a Venture Fund for promoting Pharma drug discovery and innovation. Details including size etc. are being worked out with the help of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy.

**Responsibility for Bhopal Gas Tragedy and compensation for victims**

‡2134. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is making an effort to bring prime accused in Bhopal Gas case to the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the person who will be held responsible for Bhopal Gas Tragedy; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to provide maximum compensation and relief to gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Warren Anderson was accused No. 1 in the Criminal Case No.8460/1996 in the court of CJM, Bhopal and a non-bailable warrant of arrest was issued by CJM, Bhopal on 10.04.1992, against Anderson for enabling his extradition to India. But despite steps taken by the Government in 2003, the extradition could not take place on account of the fact that the US has maintained that the request does not meet the requirements of Articles 2(1) and 9(3)(c) of the Extradition treaty and that there was insufficient evidence of intent on the part of Anderson which was necessary to show probable cause under the US law. The subsequent requests in December, 2004, January, 2007 and July, 2008 also did not result in change in the decision of the US Government.

The Government has considered the recommendations of the GoM and decided that CBI with the assistance of the Ministry of Law, Ministry of External Affairs and the Attorney General will put together additional material in support of the request of extradition of Warren Anderson and M/o External Affairs will press the request for extradition with the US Government.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi