1	2	3	4	5	6
21	Punjab	0	5	1	38
22	Rajasthan	0	2	0	26
23	Sikkim	0	3	0	6
24	Tamil Nadu	0	1	1	18
25	Tripura	0	3	1	33
26	Uttarakhand	NR	20	49	70
27	Uttar Pradesh	0	19	67	151
28	West Bengal	0	121	78	725
29	A & N Islands	0	2	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	NR	NR	NR
31	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0
32	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
33	Delhi	NR	40	47	107
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1
35	Pondicherry	0	33	1	16
	TOTAL	12	586	421	1762

NR- Not reported

Source: 'National Health Profile 2009' published by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, Dte.GHS, New Delhi.

Assessment of AHIS

194. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee constituted by the Planning Commission to make a rapid assessment of Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme (AHIS) for considering possibilities of dovetailing AHIS with Rashtriya Swasth Bima Yojana (RSBY) and/or funding linkage with National Rural Health Mission, had asked the Ministry of Labour and Employment to prepare a concept note for its consideration;

(b) if so, whether this concept note has been considered by the Committee;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken on AHIS on the basis of this concept note; and

(d) by when Central assisstance of Rs. 300 crore is likely to be released for AHIS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Yes. On the request of Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing financial support to the Aarogyasri Scheme, Planning Commission constituted a small committee to look into the Aarogyasri Scheme. The Committee requested the Ministry of Labour to prepare a concept/discussion paper. The discussion paper was circulated to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority [IRDA] and Government of Andhra Pradesh with a request to give their comments on the proposal. The paper and comments were considered by the Committee.

Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission also took a meeting wherein it was suggested that Aarogyasri Scheme may need a comprehensive review and evaluation by an independent organization.

Use of hazardous chemicals for ripening fruits

†195. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the use of hazardous chemicals for ripening the fruits is completely banned under food adulteration laws;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is not being complied with and hazardous chemicals such as carbide, ethylene and ethephon solution are being used for ripening the fruits;

(c) the effect of these chemicals on the health of people; and

(d) the step being taken by Government to prevent the use of above chemicals completely?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Rule 44 AA of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955 prohibits the sale of fruits which has been artificially ripened by use of acetylene gas commonly known as carbide gas produced from Calcium Carbide.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.