

Taskforce on Medical Tourism

1166. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Task Force has been constituted for studying the prospects of Medical Tourism in the country;

– (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the States have been consulted in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Task Force on "Health Tourism" with a view to promoting India as a health destination for persons across the globe so as to gainfully utilize the health care expertise and infrastructure available in the country was constituted in January 2004.

(c) States have also been represented on the Task Force.

Infant Feeding

1167. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to repeal the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Feeds (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to move Food Safety and Standards Bill, 2005;

(c) whether the repeal of IMS Act will lead to unhealthy marketing practices of infant milk substitutes and infant foods; and

(d) whether the repeal will also take away the initiative for promotion of breastfeeding, to which India has committed under the WHO and UN Convention on the rights of the child?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) A Group of Ministers constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other