Disbursement of pension by branches of Andhra Bank

2997. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 471 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2 March, 2010 and state:

- (a) whether the Central pension payment authority *vide* its letter dated 15 March, 2010 (issued on 27 March, 2010) asked Andhra Bank to name its branches in Uttar Pradesh for disbursement of civil pension;
- (b) if so, the response of Andhra Bank thereto with the date on which Andhra Bank responded in the matter;
- (c) the name of branches of Andhra Bank in Uttar Pradesh as a whole and in Haryana and Rajasthan falling within N.C.R. which have been approved for the purpose;
- (d) whether the Andhra Bank has centralized the disbursement of pension by its branches in the country and therefore no separate request is required to be made by the Bank for payment of pension through Vasundra and Noida branches; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor in light of reply referred to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Andhra Bank is authorized for disbursement of civil pension at Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, apart from branches which fall in National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. According to the bank, their Lucknow branch is accepting civil pensions accordingly. Andhra Bank has further reported that all branches of Rajasthan and Haryana States which fall in NCT of Delhi are authorized to pay central civil pensions.

(d) and (e) The bank has also reported that their Vasundra branch and Sector 19 branch in Noida and all branches in the National Capital Territory of Delhi have also been authorized to pay central civil pensions. The process of centralization of disbursement of pensions is likely to be completed by the end of January, 2011.

Deaths due to malaria

2998. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: SHRI D. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a new study published in a reputed medical journal 'The Lancet' saying that malaria kills nearly 2 lakh people in India every year including 80,000 children below the age of 15 years;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether this report contradicts the findings of the World Health Organisation (WHO) which had put the number of death due to malaria in India at 15,000; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) The estimated number of deaths due to malaria reported in British medical journal 'the Lancet' is not acceptable according to experts from the World Health Organisation, Indian Council of Medical Research and Directorate of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. The study published in the journal suffers from several methodological deficiencies.

Guidelines on recognition of medical and dental colleges

†2999. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any clear guidelines have been framed in respect of recognition or derecognition of medical or dental colleges by the Medical Council or Dental Council of India;
 - (b) if so, whether these guidelines are being complied with *in toto*;
 - (c) whether the functioning of both these councils is reviewed by Government;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) Yes. A medical college is recognized or de-recognized in accordance with provisions contained in the Indian Medical Council (IMC) Act, 1956 and regulations made thereunder. Similarly, a dental college is recognized and de-recognized in accordance with the provisions contained in the Dentists Act, 1948 and relevant section of the Dental Council of India (Establishment of new Dental Colleges, opening of higher courses of study and increase of admission capacity in dental colleges) Regulations, 2006.

(c) to (e) The review of functioning of Medical Council of India (MCI) and Dental Council of India (DCI) is a continuous process which is done from time to time.

Chit checking circular to all dispensaries

3000. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ayurvedic Store, Bikaner House issued a chit checking circular to all the dispensaries recently;

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.