

EXPERT COMMITTEE ON IUCD

87, SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee has been appointed by the Ministry of Health and Family Planning to review the experience of IUCD expulsions and bleeding; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of this committee?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) No separate expert Committee to review only the experience of IUCD expulsions and bleeding has been appointed by the Ministry of Health and Family Planning. However, a Committee was constituted to consider all technical problems connected with Family Planning Programme in the field with particular reference to IUCD and Sterilization procedures and advise the Government in regard thereto. Review of the experience of IUCD expulsions and bleeding is covered in these terms of the Committee.

(b) As mentioned against (a) above.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF HEALTH

88, SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government on the recommendation made by the Central Council of Health in its meeting held in Srinagar in 1964 regarding liberal assistance to drainage programme in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the nature of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) and (b) It has been proposed that for sewerage schemes, a subsidy of 25 per cent. which will be shared equally between the Central and the State Government

be given during the 4th Plan period provided sewage is used for agricultural purposes. Necessary orders in this regard will be issued as soon as a final decision is taken by the Government.

SHAH COMMITTEE ON ABORTION

89, SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shantilal Shah Committee has recommended that the present law on abortion should be liberalised; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the recommendations of this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement containing the main features of the recommendations is attached.

STATEMENT

The Shantilal H. Shah Committee considers that the present law of abortion in India is too restrictive and has therefore recommended that it should be liberalised to allow termination of pregnancy by a qualified medical practitioner acting in good faith not only for saving the pregnant women's life but also:—

(a) When the continuance of the pregnancy would involve serious risk to the life, or grave injury to the health, whether physical or mental, of the pregnant woman, whether before, at, or after the birth; or,

(b) When there is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped in life; or