Flaws in admission process at AIIMS

1311. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has been wasting almost 30 per cent of its postgraduate seats because of flaws in its admission process;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) whether the Ministry has probed into the matter; and
- (d) if so, whether any action has been taken to improve the admission process to eliminate such wastage of seats in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) As far as AIIMS is concerned, no post graduate seats are wasted at AIIMS, If any post-graduate student leaves the seat in the midterm, the same is filled in next academic session. The admissions in post graduate seats are made as per terms and conditions specified in the prospectus.

Steps to arrest growing cancer epidemic

- 1312. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing the risk of a growing cancer epidemic as its population experiences rising incomes and changing food habits amidst increasing physical inactivity;
 - (b) if so, Government's views and reaction thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to arrest the risk of spreading cancer epidemic by bringing more healthy atmosphere in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (b) As per information collected by Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), it is estimated that at any given point of time, there are 28 lakh cancer patients in the country. Further, as per report of ICMR on "Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates (1982-2005)", the number of cancer patients is growing over the years at an average of approximately 1.2% per year. However, the number of cases of persons with non-communicable diseases including cancer is rising mainly due to several factors e.g. unhealthy life style, increase in the population, environmental pollution, use of tobacco etc.