

(c) whether Government will consider to establish a regional centre of AIIMS in Sikkim in view of its topography and distance from Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) Yes, Government intends to establish AIIMS in North Guwahati in Assam.

(b) The site at Village Jalah, Mouza Sila Sunduri Ghopa, North Guwahati Revenue Circle has been approved for the establishment of AIIMS in Assam. The timeline for making it fully operationalised will be furnished at the time of its administrative approval.

(c) There is no proposal for establishment of regional centre of AIIMS in Sikkim.

#### **HIV infection through blood transfusions**

1002. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that numbers of individual have reported being infected with HIV during blood transfusions;

(b) if so, State-wise report thereon;

(c) the action which have been taken against the medical centres therefor; and

(d) action taken by Government for the patients who have been infected with HIV during transfusion therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) No individuals have reported being infected with HIV during blood transfusions to National AIDS Control Organization.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) All patients suspected to have been infected with HIV including previous history of transfusion are referred to Integrated Counseling and Testing Center for confirmation of infection and linked to Anti Retroviral Therapy Centre if found HIV positive for their treatment.

#### **Shortage of essential drugs**

1003. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria to declare drugs as essential or life saving along with the number of such enlisted drugs in the country;