

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As ultrasound machines can be misused for detecting the sex of unborn child, leading to female foeticide, their use has been explicitly brought within the purview of the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 after its amendment with effect from 14.2.2003.

States/UTs have also been directed to seal and seize ultrasound machines, which are based at places not registered under the Act.

Manufacturers have been directed to sell the ultrasound machines to the persons whose centre/clinic is registered under the Act and send regular reports to the concerned Appropriate Authorities of State/UT. Department of Family Welfare has also issued advertisement in about 1100 newspapers all over the country about the amendments made in the PNDT Act regulating sale of ultra-sound machines/imaging machines to clinics registered under the Act.

Further, the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee constituted at national level to take stock of the ground realities in the field is also visiting centres/clinics to check the records of ultrasound done on pregnant women required to be maintained under the Act.

As per the reports received from States/UTs 21,667 clinics have been registered under the Act, 191 ultrasound machines are reported to have been sealed and seized on violation of the law. 418 complaints have been filed in the Court/Police against violators of the law.

(c) to (e) District Level Appropriate Authorities have already been appointed in all the States/UTs. Each Appropriate Authority is assisted by an eight member Advisory Committee for implementation of the Act and monitoring and checking the activities of various clinics and ultrasound centres to curb their misuse.

Life saving medical equipments in hospitals

527. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:

SHRI ABANI ROY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that hospitals are not having life saving medical equipments as compared to the private owned super speciality hospitals in the NCT of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for not having life saving medical equipments in different Government hospitals in the Capital;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have not cleared several proposals recommending for purchase of life saving medical equipments from abroad, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to equip Government hospitals with the latest equipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) In so far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi viz. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Harding Medical College and Associated Hospitals as well as All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) are concerned, the essential life saving medical equipments are available.

Procurement of life saving medical equipments in the Central Government hospitals is a continuous process depending upon the need and availability of resources.

Reassessment of family planning measures

528. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

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

(a) whether Government have recently assessed the various family planning measures adopted and their impact to control the population explosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the nature of incentives being given to the persons who adopt family planning methods to control population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a decline in Crude Birth Rate (1990-2002) from 30.2 to 25 and that of Total Fertility Rate from 3.8 to 3.2 during the period 1990-1999.

(c) The Government is not in favour of giving any incentives for promotion of family planning methods. However, cash compensation for