

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) Data regarding the number of AIDS orphan children in the country is not available.

(c) There is no budgetary provision and institutional support under the National AIDS Control Programme dedicated to the rehabilitation of such children affected with AIDS.

(d) The Government is up-scaling the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme (PMCTP) in the country, to reduce HIV transmission from infected mothers to their babies. This intervention was started in March 2000 in 11 institutions in the country; five in Maharashtra, three in Tamil Nadu and one each in States of Karnataka, Manipur and Andhra Pradesh. This programme has been upscaled and extended during year 2002 to cover all medical colleges and some of the district hospitals in the six high prevalence State namely, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Manipur and Nagaland.

**Policy for purchase of medicines for CGHS**

2566. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suffered loss of crores of rupees for not adopting the procedure of wholesale purchase of medicines for CGHS;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a policy for the purchase of medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (d) The bulk purchase of medicines for CGHS are made through the Medical Stores Organisation (MSO) of the Dte. GHS. In cases where the MSO is not able to supply medicines or the Govt, specialist prescribes medicines outside the Govt, formulary, the CGHS procures the same based on the individual prescription of the beneficiaries from the authorised local chemists appointed by the CGHS. In the case of urgently needed drugs, authority slips are issued to the beneficiaries for immediate procurement through the authorised local chemist.

The MSO has a well-defined set procedure for purchasing medical stores which it follows for all the purchases made. These purchases are done at the most economical rate and therefore, the question of loss from purchases made by MSO does not arise.

#### **CAG report on AIIMS**

† 2567. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CAG in its report has stated that AIIMS has deviated from its basic aim of medical research and education;

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote medical research in AIIMS; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) CAG in its report brought out issues related to the output of Medical Research and Education at AIIMS. The Institute has already given its evidence to the Public Accounts Committee. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi was established as an Autonomous/Statutory Body by an Act of Parliament in 1956. AIIMS has been empowered with the responsibility of setting up the standards in the field of medical education, research and patient care in India and to train personnel of all important branches of health activities. The Institute conducts under-graduate degree courses and various postgraduate, post-doctoral and super-specialities courses. More or less the objectives have been achieved in ensuring an overall excellence in the field of teaching, research and patient care. Based on a nationwide survey, the AIIMS Medical College has been voted to be the best in the country. AIIMS has been a trend setter in medical education. In the field of medical research, both basic and applied, AIIMS is the acknowledged leader. The Institute faculty has published 1108 papers in reputed indexed journals while more than 300 research projects were completed during the year 1999-2000. AIIMS milestones in research includes important research outcomes used to control Diarrhoeal diseases, Leprosy, Malaria, Cancer, Tuberculosis, AIDS, Genetic Disorders, Iodine Deficiency Disorder and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.