

**News-Item "Parikshanon par Pabandiyon se chikitsa project thande paden"**

2974. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Parikshanon par pabandiyon se chikitsa project thande paden", which appeared in the Navbharat Times dated the 21st February, 2002; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto and the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The guidelines/Rules issued by the Committee for the purpose of Control and Supervision of Experimentation on Animals (CPCSEA) for regulating experiments on animals for production of drugs, testing of vaccine/ante-sera etc. is causing concern among bio-medical research scientists as some of the provisions of the Rules are hampering medical research particularly in the areas relating to development of new drugs. The contentious issues are being considered in the Committee of Secretaries.

**Assistance to Assam Medical College and Hospital, Dibrugarh**

2975. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had received a letter from Assam Chief Minister for assistance to improve the functioning of the Assam Medical College and Hospital at Dibrugarh and to open a branch of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) there; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has not received any letter