

News-Item captioned 'Laser Treatment may cause Visual Loss'

3428. SHRI BANWARI LAL PAROHIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Laser Treatment may cause Visual loss" as reported in 'Indian Express' dated 11 March, 1990;

(b) whether the factual position in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to make doctors aware about the adverse effects of treatment by laser in 'rural areas'?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUSTRAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India have not undertaken any research study in this regard. However, literature regarding laser therapy indicated that laser therapy is a treatment of choice in certain visual diseases such as diabetic retinopathy and cataract disease, glaucoma. The laser therapy is used only in those centres/hospitals where experts trained in this field are available. Laser treatment does not cause visual loss if used properly.

Garment Export Cargo

3429. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large export cargo of garments has piled up at the international airports of Delhi and Bombay resulting delay in execution of orders and likely cancellation thereof; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and measures taken to resolve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). An estimated 3,700 tonnes of garments have piled up at Delhi and Bombay Airports due to cargo congestion. The following steps have been taken to ease the situation:

(i) The 'Open Sky Policy' under which foreign airlines are allowed to operate special extra sections freighters has been extended upto end of 1992.

(ii) Efforts are being made to arrange additional freight services including chartering of flights to clear the backlog.

[*Translation*]

Lal Dora in Delhi Villages

3430. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of extending 'Lal Dora' in rural areas of Delhi is under consideration;

(b) if so, the number of villages in which it is proposed to extend the 'Lal Dora'; and

(c) the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration has informed that keeping in view the increase in population they have a proposal to extend laldora to cover 76 villages, which do not fall within the urbanisable limit.