

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 14, 1962/Phalguna
23, 1883 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Comet Brand Ammonium Chloride

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*19. { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of Health be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Govern-
ment has been drawn to a report
published in newspapers on the 8th
February, 1962, that a medicine (a
cough mixture) known as Ammonium
Chloride (Comet brand) manufactured
by M/s Alliance Drug and Chemical
Company of Bombay, when adminis-
tered to some indoor patients of
Brown Memorial Hospital at Ludhiana
(Punjab), caused deaths of two
patients and two others had to be
given an anti-dote for recovery from
its effects;

(b) if so, details of the incident; and

(c) the nature of action taken by
the Government of India to prevent
the use of the medicine under refer-
ence in the country and against its
manufacturers?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation
and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid
on the Table of the Sabha. [See
Appendix I, annexure No. 5.]

1849 (Ai) L.S.D.—1.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: In view
of the fact that this cough mixture
was seen to have contained potassium
cyanide in it, what has been done
about the people who manufactured
this stuff? Have they been taken into
custody?

Shri Hathi: The statement mentions
the steps already taken. The stock
has been frozen and the persons deal-
ing with it have been arrested.

Family Planning in India

*20. Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Minis-
ter of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have
decided to extend the Family Plan-
ning programme rapidly in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation
and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A note containing the required
information is laid on the Table. [See
Appendix I, annexure No. 6.]

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know the
amount allocated to the different
States for family planning?

Shri Hathi: I have not got the
break-up Statewise. A total amount
of Rs. 50 crores has been provided in
the Third Plan.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know what
steps are being taken by Government
to provide contraceptives free of cost
mainly to the lower strata of people
in the country?

Shri Hathi: They will be provided
free.

Shri Basappa: Is Government
thinking of any legislative measures
for raising the age of marriage.