

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) and (b) . Facilities for treatment of Urological diseases are available in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi. As and when required patients are referred to other institutions like Safdarjang Hospital and All India Institute of Medical Sciences for specific treatment.

[*Translation*]

#### Approval to River Valley Project

63. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing Expert Committee of his Ministry set up to review the river valley and Hydel Power Schemes have reversed previous Expert Committee's decision that new proposals of those States would not be approved which have not complied with the criteria contained in previous projects;

(b) is so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new Committee had accorded approval to all projects in their very first meeting; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) :

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### Packing of Edible Oil

64. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have banned the use of second hand tins for packing edible oil under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) if so, the specific reasons thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to ensure that this ban does not push up oil prices and does not create artificial scarcity of edible oil;

(d) whether the Government have made arrangements to import additional tin sheets required in view of the ban;

(e) whether the Government are aware that the ban is likely to create joblessness; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to help them to get alternate jobs ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Use of second hand tins for packing of edible oils have been banned keeping in view the health of the consumers.

(c) The prices of edible oils, when packed and sold in new tins are likely to go up in proportion to the cost of the new tins.

(d) to (f) . The import of tinplates is under Open General Licence (OLG). Hence, the users have to import the same directly themselves, in case there is shortfall between indigenous availability and domestic requirements. The measure is not likely lead to loss of jobs.

[*Translation*]

#### AIDS Control

65. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :  
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :

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

(a) whether as per the findings of North-Eastern Anthropology Research Institute, Shillong, one-fourth of the total number of AIDS patients in the country are found in the North-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Council of Medical Research has acknowledged this fact; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the spread of this deadly disease in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) to (c) . The ICMR has no information regarding the North-Eastern Anthropology Research Institute, Shillong or its findings. As per the reports received for the period ending 31st January, 1996 of the 2312 AIDS cases in the Country 118 AIDS cases have been reported from the 7 North-Eastern States.

(d) A comprehensive Scheme for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS is under implementation throughout the Country including North-Eastern Region. The strategies of the programme consist of behaviour change through creation of mass awareness among high risk group and general public about HIV/AIDS; Blood Safety and rational use of blood; control of STDs better surveillance and clinical management of HIV/AIDS cases and condom promotion.

#### Medical Equipments

66. SHRI MANJAY LAL :  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :  
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times on January 26, 1996 captioned Medical equipment worth crore laying dysfunctional;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;