

by the professional blood donors in Delhi who are completely dependent on this profession for their livelihood and are living a terrible life ;

(b) if so, whether Government have, at any time, considered the question of banning professional blood donations or to licence these professionals to discourage the people from taking blood donation as a profession ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :

(a) to (c) Reports have appeared in newspapers from time to time regarding persons who donate blood repeatedly for gaining monetary benefits. It is not possible to regulate the blood donation by so-called professionals. However, Government has been repeatedly emphasising the necessity of inculcating the habit of voluntary donation of blood as this is the only method through which substantial quantities of blood can be collected which would be safe, hygienic and disease free. The ability to mobilise a large number of people for voluntary donation of blood would depend on the speed with which health education spreads in the country.

Number of Polytechnics Run by Government

5955. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Polytechnics functioning in the country at present ;

(b) the number of Polytechnics run by Government ; and

(c) the number of polytechnics run by private institutions and whether these are conforming to teaching courses of Government Polytechnics ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) The

information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Polytechnic College in Madhya Pradesh

5956. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Polytechnic Colleges opened in Madhya Pradesh by the Central Government indicating the locations thereof ;

(b) whether the subject regarding opening of Polytechnic Colleges in backward and Adivasi dominated areas does not come under the Central Government ;

(c) if so, the names of the backward areas in Madhya Pradesh where such Polytechnic Colleges have been opened ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) whether the Central Government propose to open a Polytechnic College in the most backward Mandla district of the State with a view to develop it, during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (e) The establishment of polytechnics is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The Central Government has not opened any polytechnic in the State of Madhya Pradesh nor is there a proposal to set up a polytechnic in Mandla district.

Study of Computer Education in Schools

5957. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether software used for pilot study of computer education in Schools is based heavily on the experience in U. K ; and

(b) if so, whether this is suitable to Indian conditions ?