

Lease Agreement with M/s. Wadi Bunder Cotton Press, Bombay

5146. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay Port Trust has served a notice to terminate the lease agreement with M/s Wadi Bunder Cotton Press, Bombay; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT : (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) The lease of the plot to M/s. Wadi Bunder Cotton Press, Bombay expired on 28 February, 1985. The Board of Trustees of the Port of Bombay have decided not to renew the lease in favour of M/s Wadi Bunder Cotton Press, Bombay. Accordingly, a notice of termination dated 7.5.85 was served on them.

(b) The plot in question is required for Port's own use.

Return from Major and Medium Irrigation Projects

5147. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of crores have been spent on irrigation works but the return from major and medium irrigation projects continues to be poor and if so, the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to streamline the working in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken and results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND) : (a) The returns in terms of water rates from irrigation projects have been low as they are not commensurate with the capital investments.

(b) and (c) The Seventh Plan document for irrigation programme lays down that periodical/review of the water rates to meet the cost of operation and maintenance and to provide a reasonable return on investment be carried out.

Suspected Cases Of Aids

5148. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suspected cases of aids were tested by the Indian Council of Medical Research at Pune and Vellore;

(b) if so, (i) the number of cases tested and with what results, (ii) to which States the suspected persons belonged; (iii) which tests were conducted for this disease;

(c) whether the doctors conducting the tests were experienced in treatment of this disease;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on tests; and

(e) what preventive measures are being followed to check its occurrence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) About 1000 cases have been examined in high risk groups i.e. prostitutes, homosexuals and all were negative for AIDS.

(ii) The people examined are from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Delhi and Goa.

(iii) The following tests were conducted in suspected sera:

(a) ELISA (Screening test)

(b) T₄ & T₈ — Absolute count.

(c) T₄ & T₈ — cell ratio.

All cases were found to be negative for AIDS.