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[English]

### **Use of Coking Coal by Hindustan Zinc Limited**

1629. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) continue to use imported coking coal for its Chanderiya Lead Zinc smelter;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of action taken/being taken to discontinue the use of imported coking coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Medical Colleges**

1630. DR. KRUPASINDU BHOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private medical colleges in the country;

(b) the number out of them recognised;

(c) whether several private medical colleges are taking captivation fees from the students;

(d) whether the Government have identified such colleges, and

(e) if so, the action taken against such

college authorities?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). According to the Medical Council of India, there are 41 private medical colleges including 20 recognised and 3 temporarily recognised in the country. Out of these 35 medical colleges have been charging fees higher than corresponding Government Institutions.

(e) The Supreme Court of India in a judgment dated 4th February, 1993 have ruled that the fees would be fixed by the "appropriate authority" in respect of private medical colleges. The modalities of implementing the Court's Order are being worked out.

### **Herbal Contraceptives**

1631. SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether researchers at National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, are testing herbal contraceptives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for their commercial manufacturing and use?

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

(b) There are two different contraceptives developed at the National Institute of Immunology (NII). One of them is a Polyherbal Praneem Cream, which is intended for intra-vaginal use in animals, it has shown high contraceptive efficacy. Another preparation is Preneem VILCI, which is like