

(d) the strategy adopted by the Government for the eradication of tuberculosis in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The mortality rate due to TB has been reduced from 80 to 53 per 1,00,000 population. TB is prevalent all over the country and there is no significant change in the overall prevalence of Tuberculosis.

(c) No loan from World Bank has been received.

(d) The strategy includes early case detection, supervised short course chemotherapy and intensive health education.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

2249. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending for sanction of Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension for Freedom Fighters as on October 31, 1993;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to clear these cases;

(c) whether the Government are considering any proposal for providing financial assistance to the children and grand-children of freedom fighters for education purposes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) No applications for grant of freedom fighters' pension received within the prescribed last date, i.e. 31st March, 1982 are pending. 4436 claims received after 31.3.1982 were pending consideration with the Government as on 31.10.93. Majority of these claims had been received on various dates after 25th October, 1985 which was the last date for receipt of applications in the case of persons who had suffered in the border camps in connection with the Hyderabad Liberation Movement. While every effort is being made to take early decisions on these claims, receipt and disposal of such claims being a continuous process, it would be difficult to prescribe any definite time schedule for their disposal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Coal Production

2250. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of underground coal mines is declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the production of underground mines during each of the last three years; and

(d) the total investment made by coal undertakings on underground mining machines during the said period?