

Hysterectomy

3228. SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI SWAMI
SURESHANAND:

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

(a) whether Health experts have viewed that Hysterectomy is a solution to the problem of managing the mentally retarded;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to adopt this procedure to manage the mentally retarded; and

(d) if not, the Government's stand on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal to adopt this method as a Public Health Policy.

Foeticide

3229. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases of abortion of the female foetus are being reported in the country;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to decriminalise abortion so that the task could be entrusted to trained professionals in order to save the lives being endangered by quacks through clandestine abortions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (f). Medical termination of pregnancy is allowed under circumstances specified in and placed approved under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971. In 1992-93, 6.49 lakh pregnancies were terminated medically (figures provisional). Data is not available on the sex of the foetuses aborted. The Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991 is awaiting consideration in the Lok Sabha. Inter alia, the Bill seeks to prevent the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for determining the sex of the foetus.

LPG Connection to Freedom Fighters

3230. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sanction LPG connection to the Freedom Fighters on priority basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR