

111, S-81 to S-85 and S-36 to S-48 respectively of Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey 1993-94.

(c) and (d). There is no such specific policy.

[English]

Ban on Smoking

1418. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA:

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

(a) whether 13 lakh persons die of smoking each year;

(b) if so, whether this is the highest number of deaths due to smoking in India in comparison to other countries;

(c) the States where deaths due to smoking are on increase;

(d) whether the Government propose to ban smoking in the country; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA):

(a) It is estimated that about 8 lakh persons in India die every year due to tobacco-related diseases.

(b) The global mortality due to tobacco use is estimated at 30 lakh deaths per-year.

(c) No reliable information is available.

(d) and (e). There is a proposal to bring a comprehensive legislation to discourage use of tobacco and tobacco products including ban on tobacco in public places.

[Translation]

Leprosy Eradication

1419. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leprosy patients in Bihar;

(b) the number of leprosy eradication centres in the State and the locations thereof; and

(c) the amount of assistance sanctioned and released so far by the Union Government for these centres during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) There are 1,08,187 cases in Bihar by the end of June, 1995..

(b) There are 1316 leprosy eradication centres in the State. The information about location of the centres is not available.

(c) Rs. 330.40 lakhs have been provided as Central assistances during the current year (1995-96).

[English]

Industrially Backward State

1420. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala is one of the most industrially backward States in the country;

(b) whether any request has been received from the Government of Kerala for declaring it as an Industrially Backward State; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in the matter and the steps taken to develop its industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Haemophilia

1421. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government hospitals in the country where facili-