

Only 10 percent of epileptic cases need costlier medicines.

(d) Government has taken steps to improve the maternal and child health which will contribute in reducing such cases.

#### **Catering Corporation**

1688. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to create a Railway Catering Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (e) The proposal is in a conceptual stage.

#### **World Bank Assistance to Hospitals**

*[Translation]*

1689. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Government have submitted a proposal to World Bank demanding the opening of secondary hospitals in district of these States;

(b) whether the World Bank officials have visited these States :

(c) if so, whether these officials have found the project feasible during their visit and had accorded their approval or financing it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent a brief proposal for upgrading secondary level hospitals in Uttar Pradesh with the World Bank Assistance. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has since been advised to submit a revised proposal in keeping with the requirements for World Bank aided projects.

The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh has recently submitted a proposal for upgradation of secondary level hospitals in the State.

(b) to (d) There has been no visits to these States connected with the proposed projects which are at the formative stages.

*[English]*

#### **Legislation on Population Explosion**

1690. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are planning to bring legislation to contain population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) and (b) There is no new proposal, at present, to move legislation for containment of the growth or population.

#### **Shrimp Resources**

1691. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Remote Sensing Technology is used for locating Shrimp Resources in some States :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to popularise the shrimp locating technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Remote Sensing based information on various coastal wetland features, scientifically analysed and integrated with other socio-economic information, is being utilised for locating suitable sites for brackish water aquaculture development including shrimp farming in selected maritime states of the country. Remote Sensing Technology is also being used for identification of potential areas for fishereis, including shrimps along the coasts.

(c) Dissemination of Satellite derived forecast/ information is done with close involvement of Fishery Departments of various State Governments, Fishery agencies and Fishermen associations.

#### **Unauthorised Construction**

1692. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to answer given to Unstarred Question No. 982 August 7, 1995 regarding illegal construction and state :

(a) whether information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and time by which information is likely to be collected and laid on the Table of the House;

(d) the number of cases of illegal/unauthorised construction during 1994 and 1995 and conversion of residential houses into commercial complex, area-wise; and

(e) the reasons for these constructions not being checked and the action proposed to be taken against the officials responsible therefor with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) MCD, DDA, L&DO and NDMC have reported that no detailed surveys with regard to large scale illegal constructions and/or conversion of residential houses into commercial premises in various localities of Delhi have been conducted by them. However, DDA has reported that

four representations have been received from the residents of Badarpur area for unauthorised development at Mathura Road opposite Classic Motors against which removal action has been taken on 30.7.95.

(d) Based on the daily inspections by the field staff and complaints received, the number of cases of illegal/unauthorised construction/conversion of residential houses into commercial complex reported by the MCD/DDA/NDMC during 1994 and 1995 are as follows :-

	Illegal/Unauthorised Constructions		Conversion of Residential Houses into Commercial complex.	
	1994	1995	1994	1995
MCD	3715	2621 (upto 30.11.95)	Separate data is not maintained by MCD for such cases.	
DDA	139 (upto 30.11.95)	148	512	220
NDMC	84 (upto 30.11.95)	144	Separate data is not maintained by NDMC for such cases.	

(e) Steps to check and remove/penalise unauthorised constructions are taken by the respective authorities as and when any such violations are detected.

#### Blind Persons

1693. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether every third blind person in the world lives in India;

(b) whether thousands of people every year pledge to donate their eyes after death but only per cent of these people actually and up for giving sight to few;

(c) if so, the number of blind persons and number of them benefited by eye-donation annually;

(d) whether the eye banks and other related organisations all over the country despite their efforts have not been successful in their efforts;

(e) whether the Government are considering any programme to check and help the blind person in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) It is estimated that one out of every 5 blind persons in the World is an Indian.

(b) Yes Sir. thousands of people every year pledge to donate their eyes after death. About 13,000 eyes are collected annually on death of the donors. There has been no nation-wide study on utilisation of donated eyes.

(c) There are more than 12 million blind persons in the Country. Out of these 1.52% are suffering from corneal blindness and need donated eyes. About 8,400 corneal transplanation operations are performed every year in the country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) National Programme for Control of Blindness is being implemented since 1976 in the country.

The following activities are undertaken to check & help the blind persons in the country :-

1. Strengthening of Ophthalmic Infrastructure;
2. Training of Ophthalmic manpower;
3. Establishment of District Blindness Control Societies;
4. Expanding coverage to Rural and Tribal Areas;
5. Creating awareness about the eye care among masses;
6. Revising the pattern of assistance to States/UTs and NGOs;
7. Increasing financial outlays in the annual budget and implementing the World Bank Cataract Blindness Control Project in Seven States; and
8. Strengthening the monitoring of eye care activities at the Centre, State and District level.

[Translation]

#### Commercial Farming

1694. SHRI SATYD DEO SINGH :  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new scheme to promote commercial farming of plants of pharmaceutical value;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINES AND HOMEOPATHY) (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) There is no scheme for commercial farming of these plants. However, the Govt. is providing assistance under a scheme for cultivation of Medicinal plants to Governmental institutions.

(c) Does not arise.