

the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme of check and make proper utilisation of gas being wasted daily in Barauni oil refinery; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Filaring of gas in refineries is a technical necessity and is kept to the barest minimum. Normally these gas treams are not fit for bottling as L.P.G.

Aids Control

8489 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PETEL: Will the Minister of HELATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for dissemination of information, education and effective control of AIDS have been received from the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the Central assistance sought by the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the AIDS detractions, surveillance and prevention and treatment facilities in that State at present and the additional facilities which are sought to be created therein?

THE MINISTER HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHNAKARANAND):(a) Yes, Sir .

(b) A proposAL has been received from Maharashtra Government for assistance of approximately Rs. 20 crores inclusive of Rs. 5.5 Crores for IEC.

(c) The State has already 12 Surveillance Centres and 17 Zonal Blood Testing Centres. No

further increase in this regard is proposed. The proposal also includes strengthening of 54 Blood Banks and 18 S.T.D. Clinics.

Fan on Sale of Ice-Sticks

8490. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn ti the news-item captioned "No more adulterated Ice-stiks" appearing in Indian Express dated April, 2, 1993;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to baen the sale of the ice-sticks which are i injurious to the health of the children?

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

(b) to (c). the standards office-candy have been laid down under the Prevention of food adulteration Rules, 1955, which also cover the quality of Ice-sticks. Contravention of the standards allied down would invite penal action under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. The Food (health) Authorities of the States/UTs have been requested to ensure quality of Ice-candy/Ice-stick sold in the market.

[*Translation*]

Production of Brass

8491. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether brass is being imported to meet the internal demand of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the brass imported and prodced in the cucountry during 1992-93; and