

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The memorandum was considered by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences which has created a post of Professor of Medicine for coping with the additional load on the Immunology Clinics. A proposal for creation of a full-fledged Department of Immunology is being examined by the Institute.

Result of Study re. agranulocytosis tests and aplastic anaemic Diseases

1056. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of a seven year study on two killer diseases—agranulocytosis (bone marrow malfunction) and aplastic anaemia—conducted by the Boston University-schools of Medicine, the result of which was expected to be announced in the middle of July ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action proposed by Government have the benefit of this study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agranulocytosis and aplastic anaemia associated with Leukaemia has been treated by removing bone marrow of the patient and treating it with anticancer drugs outside the body. The bone marrow is subsequently reimplanted in to the patient's body. The procedure has been tested by Dr. Andrew Yeager of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. They have successfully treated 11 patients by such method. Those patients have been reported to be free of the disease for about a year.

(c) The above study is at experimental stage. The efficacy of the study has not yet been studied even for five years duration.

It will be premature to take any action at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Introduction of shuttle service between Surat and Navapur

1057. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand to start a shuttle train between Surat and Navapur ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the reaction of the Railway Department in regard to the introduction of this new shuttle train and the details in this regard ; and

(d) the date by which this shuttle train is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Introduction of new shuttle train between Surat and Navapur is not feasible at present due to paucity of resources in the shape of locomotives and coaches. Besides, one express and 4 passenger trains are already available between these points.

[*English*]

Loss to Paradip Port

1058. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Paradip Port has suffered a loss of Rs. 55 crores ;

(b) the steps being taken to remove the wrecks of the two dredgers under the sea ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of berths in Paradip Port during the Seventh Five year Plan ?