

Harmful Effect of Caffeine

10894. SHRI C.MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies conducted at Fatima college, Madurai, demonstrate the harmful effect of caffeine on the people whose diets are generally deficient in iron and protein;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to educate the consumers through mass media and advertisements, specially on Doordarshan and in newspapers; and

(c) whether the advertisements on various foods and drinks, specially on Doordarshan, will be suitably controlled and reference made to MRTP Commission to devise guidelines to protect consumers' interest?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA):
(a) Government is not aware of such studies.

(b) and (c). Caffeine is not known to cause any ill. effect provided it is within the prescribed standard under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules. Carbonated beverages may contain 200 pm per cup, which is not harmful, when it is taken in divided dozes. folders on food laws, tips to food safety and nutritional diets have been distributed to enlighten the consumers on nutritional value of food articles including soft drinks for all age-groups. Control on advertisement is not considered necessary.

[*Translation*]

Allegations by Doctors of Lady Harding Medical College

10895. SHRI RAM DHAN:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by the doctors of Lady Harding Medical College and Sucheta Kripalani Hospital regarding the irregularities being committed by the medical colleges and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in their examinations for M.D., B.D.S., and Diploma;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that these allegations were of favouritism in some cases of admission;

(c) if so, whether Government have got an enquiry conducted into this matter through some impartial agency in addition to the enquiry conducted by the department;

(d) if so, the names of the enquiry agency and the facts brought out by the said agency; and

(e) if no such inquiry has been conducted, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA):
(a) and (b). Yes, sir.

(c) to (e). Preliminary inquiries revealed that *Prima facie* the allegations were without any basis and there was no cause for any further enquiry by any neutral or other agency.

[*English*]

Enviornmental Clearance of Man Project

10896. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the Minister of ENVIORONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: