

the condition that the capacity is achieved through the Electric Arc Furnace route.

6. Existing licensed mini-steel plants will be allowed to attain a minimum economic capacity of 50,000 tonnes per annum through Electric Arc Furnace route on production of categorical assurance regarding power availability from the respective State Governments.

Proposal to Reshape Plan to Eradicate Malaria

565. SHRI SAMBHAJIRAO
KAKADE:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

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

(a) whether Government have prepared any plan to eradicate Malaria;

(b) whether any mid-term appraisal has been made;

(c) whether the appraisal has revealed ineffectiveness of the plan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to reshape the plan as per suggestion made by the Planning Commissions' appraisal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). The Modified Plan of Operation for control of Malaria is in operation since April, 1977. The mid-term appraisal has been made by the Planning Commission in 1987 and it has not revealed any ineffectiveness of the plan. However, certain operational problems in the implementation of the programme have been pointed out in some states.

(d) The following steps are being taken

to streamline the implementation of the programme:-

- i) Regular monitoring of the p. falciparum sensitivity to chloroquine and feed back to states to take timely steps to tackle the p. falciparum resistance wherever it is detected.
- ii) Regular monitoring of the epidemiological situation for effective control of the disease.
- iii) Regular monitoring of the vector susceptibility to different insecticides for undertaking spray operation with the appropriate insecticides.
- iv) A macro and micro level malariogenic stratification of the country based on the various parameters is being worked out.
- v) Health education and publicity measures have been intensified.

Replacement of Wooden Sleepers by Concrete Sleepers

566. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to replace the existing wooden sleepers of the railways by concrete sleepers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the railway zones where this work will be taken up/has been taken up;

(d) the length of railway tracks that is likely to be completed by the end of Seventh Plan on each zonal railway and particularly on South Central Railway; and