

fied the Textile units under the National Textile Corporation which are running in loss;

(b) if so, the textile units under NTC which incurred loss during 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(c) the extent of loss incurred by each of them during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the performance of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Most of the mills under National Textile Corporation have been incurring losses. During the year 1987-88 & 1988-89 (April- Dec., 1988), the mills under NTC incurred net losses amounting to Rs. 266 crores and Rs. 232 crores (Provisional) respectively.

(d) NTC has formulated a fresh turn-around strategy, based on selective modernisation with the help of institutional finance, product improvement and diversification etc. for improving the performance of the losing units.

[*Translation*]

Afforestation in Madhya Pradesh

1786. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state.

(a) the districts in Madhya Pradesh where seeds were sprinkled for growing trees to promote afforestation since 1950;

(b) the extent to which success has been achieved and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to

achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Aids Free Certificates for Indigenous Blood Products

1787. CH. KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

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

(a) whether while AIDS free certificates are insisted in the case of imported blood and blood products, similar precautions are not taken in the case of indigenous blood products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to make screening, of the indigenous blood and blood products for AIDS mandatory; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). All human blood are now required to be tested for HIV anti-bodies.

On the 6th May, 1986, administrative instructions were issued by Drug Controller of India to all the State Drug Controllers of accepting blood from Professional donors only on production of a certificate regarding absence of HIV INFECTION. Thereafter, on 14th February, 1989, detailed guidelines

have been issued by Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to all State Drug Controllers regarding screening of all units of blood received in blood banks in cities where surveillance centres have been established by ICMR.

Every blood manufacturer requires a licence which is issued under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940. Draft rules under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 have been framed and sent to the Government of India Press for publication in the official Gazette seeking suggestions within 21 days. The draft Rules provides that "every licences of a Blood Bank shall get sample of every blood unit tested for freedom from HIV antibodies from such laboratories specified for the purpose by the Central Government. Date of performing the test shall be recorded on the label of the container also."

Deposit of EPF Amount by Amrit Bazar Patrika Group, Calcutta

1788. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the EPF dues recovered from the employees by the Amrit Bazar Patrika Group, Calcutta during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 so far;

(b) the amount deposited by them so far; and

(c) the steps taken for recovery of the amount still due from them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Steps to Reduce Tobacco Consumption

1789. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people die of tobacco consumption in India; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reduce tobacco consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) It is estimated that about 6 to 10 lakh people die due to tobacco related diseases every year in India.

(b) The measures undertaken to reduce the consumption of tobacco products include;

- (i) educating the masses against the use of tobacco products by highlighting its evil effects on health like cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, oral and lung cancer etc.
- (ii) Printing of statutory warning on cigarette packets, hoardings etc.
- (iii) ban on advertisement of cigarette and tobacco products on mass media, sports stadia etc.
- (iv) ban on smoking in public places meetings, seminars etc.

Consortium of Jute Exporting Countries

1790. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: