

[*Translation*]

Payment of Dugs to the Dependents of Deceased Employees of DDA

2281. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of D.D.A. employees who had died during their service period since 1986;

(b) in how many cases out of them the payment of G.P. Fund Group insurance and other dues has been made to their dependents; and

(c) the time by which payment to the remaining dependents will be made and the reasons for delay, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

Wonder Drug for Wound Healing

2283. SHRINARSINGH SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a substance processed from discarded shells of prawns, lobsters and other crustaceans is poised to become a wonder drug to arrest haemorrhage and speed up wound-healing;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) It has come to the notice of the Government of India that Dr. M. Sambasivan, Director and Professor of Neuro-surgery, Trivandrum Medical College and R. Radhakrishnan a pathologist at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Science and Technology have found that "Chitosan derived from shells of prawns, lobsters and other crustaceans which has haemostic and wound healing properties, arrested haemorrhage and speeded up wound healing. The drug was tried on human beings in the country for the first time. It may take some time before the drug could be considered for use on a large scale.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government to conduct any separate study in this regard.

(c) The question does not arise.

Closure of Textile Mills in W. B.

2284. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton and textile mills under lock-out in West Bengal at present; and

(b) the measures, if any, taken so far to get them reopen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Eight (including five cotton) textiles mills excluding jute mills are under lock-out in West Bengal as on 30.6.89. The Nodal Agency set up to evolve and manage rehabilitation packages in respect of textile mills found potentially viable has examined 3 out of the 8 units under lock-out. Of these, 1 was found viable, 1 is still under review and 1 was found non-viable. The cases of last 2 units are with BIFR.