

Report of Major cause of rising trends of sexually transmitted disease

3209. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a task force which was set up by the Indian Council of Medical Research in 1979 to undertake research on major cause of the rising trend of various sexually transmitted disease has submitted its report ; and

(b) if so, the details regarding its main recommendations and causes behind it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) :

(a) Yes.

(b) The Task Force made the following recommendations.

1. Epidemiological studies to assess the magnitude of the problem should be undertaken in at last 4 major cities of India.

2. Health education should be strengthened.

3. Basic research regarding, (i) the development of an antigen for the serological testing of gonorrhoea; (ii) production of antigen for inter-laboratory evaluation ; (iii) immunological studies ; (iv) usefulness of ELISA in serodiagnosis ; and (v) studies on chancroid, L.G.V. and Donovanosis should be undertaken.

4. Special emphasis was laid on various aspects of control measures.

The causes behind the recommendations as indicated in the report are :—

1. There are a very limited number of studies on the epidemiology of

sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in the country ;

2. Sexually transmitted diseases pose a serious public health problem, specially among the youth ;

3. Existing STD control programmes are not very effective ;

4. About 50 per cent of the males are asymptomatic and diagnosis can be made only by bacteriological investigations ;

5. A highly sensitive and specific test needs to be developed for the quick diagnosis of gonorrhoea ;

6. In view of the increasing incidence of sexually transmitted diseases, an efficient surveillance programme is the most essential step for the control of the diseases ; and

7. A basic necessity is to have proper laboratory services for detecting the disease early and accurately, so that proper treatment could be instituted speedily.

Concessions to Railway Sportsmen

3210. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to grant certain concessions to the Railway sportsmen ;

(b) if so, what financial benefits they are entitled to get ; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to