

(c) whether any fund has been allocated by the Government for the purpose in the current Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the efforts being taken by the Union Government to construct the dam across the river of Ravi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The Central Government is concerned only with the development/construction of National Highway and Bridges thereon. All other roads and bridges fall within the purview of the respective State Government.

(e) The State Government of Punjab has undertaken the construction of Their Dam across the river Ravi.

Diversion of Wheat by FCI

3848. SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of wheat worth several crore of rupees has been allegedly diverted by the officials of the Food Corporation of India during 1997-98 till date;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of persons found guilty and the action taken/being taken against them; and

(d) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government to check/stop such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Central Government has asked the States/UTs to constitute Vigilance Committees at fair price shop (FPS), Taluk, District and State levels to monitor the functioning of PDS. State/UTs have been requested to draw up inspection schedules for the District/Taluk level officers. Introduction of a greater level of transparency has been emphasis upon, including display of information at FPS and wide publicity to the allocation and offtake at

local level. A Model Citizens Charter for targeted PDS has been brought out for adoption by the States/UTs.

[Translation]

Rackets Involved in Adulterated Medicines

3849. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI VITHAL TUPE:
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:
SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH:
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:
SHRI JANG BHADUR SINGH PATEL:
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:
SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:
SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Milawat ka Jahar Janata Par Kahar" appeared in 'Dainik Jagran' dated September 17, 1998;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the rackets involved in such adulteration;

(d) if so, the number of persons lost their lives during each of the last three years due to use of adulterated, outdated and spurious medicines in general and particularly in Government hospitals/dispensaries in Delhi;

(e) whether Delhi Police has probed the matter as per the directions of the Delhi High Court;

(f) if so, the number of cases detected during each of the last three years, till date;

(g) the total number of cases of using expired medicines reported in Government hospitals/dispensaries as on date particularly in metropolitan cities;

(h) whether C&AG has also made their observations in regard to supply of expired/spurious medicines to the patients in hospitals, dispensaries and also through chemists;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) the action taken by the Government against these persons; and

(k) the steps taken to check adulteration in medicines, supply of expired date and spurious medicines to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the new item (which *inter-alia* reported about the lack of manufacturing technology and testing labs., in units approved for manufacture of drugs in the Industrial areas in and around Delhi and about practises leading to adulteration of drugs, which are being dispensed through Govt. Hospitals,) the State Drug Control authorities in Delhi conducted surprise checks on 36 factories and 18 dealers. They lifted 53 samples in all for the test and analysis. Out of these, reports have been received in 21 cases, all of which have been found to be or standard quality. The representatives of the Central Drug Standard & Control Organisation also participated in some of these surprise visits/raids which were also assisted by the police.

(c) to (f) No reports have been received regarding rackets involving drug adulteration.

There are no confirmed reports regarding loss of life due to use of adulterated, outdated and spurious medicines.

Delhi Police conducted a raid at Turkman Gate on 25-10-98 where they unearthed a racket involving changing wrappers/labels of local made injections with that of reputed companies and supplying same in the market at high rates. Two persons were also arrested in this connection. Delhi Police also conducted a raid on Bhagirath Place on 30-10-98, alongwith the Drug Control authorities. The police unearthed a case involving imitation of 3 popular brands of medicines in connection with which 2 persons were arrested. Both the investigations were based on information received by them.

(g) As per information available, no reports have been received regarding the use of expired medicines in Govt. Hospitals in metropolitan cities. All medicines supplied through the Medical Stores Organisation are prechecked before accepted into stock. These drugs are further sampled at random and tested through in-house quality control mechanism as well as by the Central Drug Standard & Control Organisation till it is dispensed.

(h) and (i) As per information available no such observations have been received from the C&AG regarding supply of expired/spurious medicines to patients in hospitals/dispensaries & chemists.

(j) and (k) Elaborate provisions are available in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules thereunder to prohibit manufacture, sale and distribution of adulterated, spurious and date expired medicines. Penal provisions are also available for violation of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act. These provisions are enforced through the State Drug Control authorities. They conduct regular surveillance checks like surprise checks on manufacturing units, on traders and hospitals, random sampling of medicines, using decoy customers to test purchase drugs and the police to unearth illegal activities. Consumer Organisations and consumers respectively have been empowered under the Act to draw samples of any suspicious drugs for testing and to file complaints in Courts of law if drugs are found to be spurious or adulterated. Requisite penal action is taken under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act wherever infringements of its provisions come to notice.

[English]

Migration from Jammu and Kashmir

3850. VAIDYA VISHNU DUTT:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families migrated from Jammu and Kashmir to lodge in camps and other places within and outside the State;

(b) the amount spent for providing relief including cash assistance, cost of free rations and other facilities every year;

(c) whether any action plan has been chalked out for return and rehabilitation of these migrants to their respective homes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the financial assistance sought by the State Government to tackle this problem; and

(f) the steps being taken for restoration of their properties?