

(c) to (e) No separate houses are proposed to be constructed for allotment to the registrants of Ambedkar Awas Yojana. The scheme envisages allotment of 20,000 flats in different areas, to the registrants as per quota fixed for scheduled classes/tribes out of the flats which will be constructed under New Pattern Scheme, 1979. The cost of the flats will depend on the cost of land, material, labour etc.

All the 20,000 persons to be registered under this scheme are likely to be allotted flats by 1994-1995.

Environmental Damage in J&K

1569. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether substantial environmental damage has been caused in J&K State with the burning of oil wells in Kuwait;

(b) If so, whether any study in regard to the extent of environmental damage has been made by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There is no concrete evidence to indicate that burning of oil wells in Kuwait has caused substantial environmental damage in J & K.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Spread of AIDs in the Country

1570. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AIDs is spreading slowly in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons identified suffering from AIDs so far; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check the spread of this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes.

(b) As on 30-6-91, 5588 persons out of 9.50 lakhs persons practising high risk behaviour, screened were found HIV positive. Out of these 5588 HIV positive cases, 68 have been reported to be full blown AIDs cases.

(c) A Medium Term Plan for AIDs control is being implemented by Government of India with emphasis on

—Increased facilities for early diagnosis and management of HIV infection including establishment of AIDs treatment Centres.

—Health education to contain spread of HIV infection among high risk and vulnerable groups.

—A phased programme for screening donated blood for HIV antibodies, modernisation of blood banking and rationalisation of blood/blood product usage to minimize the risk of transmission of HIV through blood/blood products.

—ICMR has initiated a Sentinel Surveillance for HIV infection to monitor time trends in prevalence of HIV infection in different regions in different risk groups, so that information on the quantum of HIV infection and AIDs cases requiring treatment will become available for policy makers/programme implementors.

Deforestation in Orissa

1571. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT and FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of deforestation in large scale in Orissa, particularly in the district of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Phulbani and the