GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4900 ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000 COMPUTER HARD DISK AJAY CHAKRABORTY; DINESH CHANDRA YADAV; M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY; M.V.V.S MURTHI; NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA; RAM JEEVAN SINGH; SHYAMA SINGH

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that computer hard disks containing vital research material have been stolen from the premises of the Indian Council of Medical Research as published in the Statesman dated November 22, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any investigation has been made in this regard; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty persons?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The ICMR has reported that it was noticed on the forenoon of 11th November, 2000 that seven rooms of Council's main building office on 2nd floor were broken open and the Central Processing Units of nine computers were dismantled and hard disks and other hardware stolen. However, the data which has been stolen is not of a sensitive nature and does not contain unpublished reports; hence, it should not have any impact on IPR or related issues.

(c) & (d) ICMR have lodged a complaint with Defence Colony Police Station, New on 11.11.2000 based on which a F.I.R. has been registered and the investigation is in progress. Besides, a departmental enquiry has also been ordered and the security of the Council has been revamped.