

[English]

**Air Pollution In Vijayawada And Visakhapatnam**

6183. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY  
SHRI V. SODHANADREES-  
WARA RAO VADDE.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the air pollution in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam cities has exceeded the permissible limits;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The steps taken by the Government to see that the air pollution is brought to the minimum permissible limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) In the case of Vijayawada the air pollution levels are within the prescribed limits. In the case of Visakhapatnam see on certain occasions, sulphur dioxide concentration in ambient air exceeds the permissible limit.

(c) The steps taken by the government to minimise air pollution include:-

(1) To minimise air pollution at Visakhapatnam an action plan was prepared and communicated to industries so as to bring down the air pollution levels within the prescribed limits by the end of December, 1991.

(2) The major polluting industries have installed pollution control equipment and in other industries modification and upgradation of equipment is being carried out by the industries.

(3) A high level committee was constituted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to review the situation and suggest measures, if any, to minimise the air pollution problem.

**Replacement of I/V Fluids**

6184. SHRI SUDARSAN  
RAYCHAUDHURI:  
SHRI CHANDRASHEKARA  
MURTHY:  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BAN-  
DARU:  
DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA  
PRASAD:  
DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:  
SHRI RAJENDRA AG-  
NIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 8, 1989 to Starred Question No. 191 and state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that in May, 1989 the Drug Controller (India) had ordered to get the stocks of I/V fluids replaced;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that he himself alongwith the Drug Controller (Delhi) had cleared the same stocks in February-March, 1989; and

(c) If the reply to Parts (a) and (b) above be affirmative, whether it had been established during April/May, 1989 that the stocks were indeed contaminated and therefore replacement of stocks was warranted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SRIMATI. D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir. The Drugs Controller (India) had suggested to the Drugs

Controller, Tamil Nadu, in May, 1989 to instruct M/s. Oslers Pharma Ltd. to send their representative to examine stocks of I.V. fluids lying with the distributor in New Delhi so that if the stocks lying with the distributor are found contaminated, as claimed by him, M/s. Oslers Pharma Ltd. may be asked to take back, and not replace the stocks, under intimation to the Drugs Controller (Delhi Administration) and the Drugs Controller (India).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Causes Of Dropouts

6185. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by the Government to recognise the cause of dropouts;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) Steps the Government propose to prevent such dropouts and to utilise the manpower of dropout children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main reasons identified for children dropping out of school are:

(i) Children are required to work to supplement the family income or otherwise assist their parents;

(ii) Girls have to attend to house hold

chores including fetching water and looking after siblings;

(iii) Schools have inadequate facilities and insufficient instructional material;

(iv) Curriculum is perceived as not being related to local need, especially where the languages of the instructional material is unfamiliar to children speaking in dialect;

(v) Reluctance of parents to send girls of school;

(c) Some of the main steps being taken to prevent dropouts and increase participation of children in schools are:

(i) The provision of primary schools within 1 km. walking distance of all habitations with a population of 300. In the case of SC/ST habitations, the norm is relaxed to include habitation with population of 200;

(ii) Improvement of physical facilities in primary schools under the scheme of Operation Blackboard;

(iii) Establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training for improving teachers effectiveness;

(iv) Provision of incentives such as free uniform, free text books attendance scholarship for girls, mid-day meals etc. to socio-economically backward children.

In order to provide education to school dropouts, children from habitations without schools and children who cannot attend whole day schools, government is running the programme of Non-formal Education, under which part time education, of a standard comparable in quality to primary schooling, is provided to them in centres located at the convenience of the learners.