

Injection for Thalassemia

171. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that due to rise in prices of medicines, specially the Injection for Thalassemia patients, a large number of patients are facing death; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide reliefs to the poor Thalassemia patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Thalassemia a disorder characterized by defective synthesis of haemoglobin, treated by repeated blood transfusions requiring iron chelation to remove iron overload, is, so far treated with imported Desferal injections as a chelator. Government of India have extended exemption from Customs duty for the import of Desferal injection and the infusion pump. Govt. have also recently permitted the marketing of an oral iron chelator Deferiprone under strict medical supervision. This oral drug is less expensive and the patient's compliance is also better. Indian Council of Medical Research, a Govt. aided institution, supports an Advanced Research Centre at Christian Medical College, Vellore, for curative treatment for Thalassemia. Genetic counselling and prenatal diagnosis during pregnancy to prevent birth of affected children is available at a few centres in the country.

Telephone Services

172. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone services in Indore (M.P.) have deteriorated during last few years; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No., Sir. In last four years, the fault rate of Indore Telephones has decreased from 26.7 faults/100 telephones/month to 18.22 faults/100 telephones/month.

(b) Does not arise

[Translation]

Land Oustees

173. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether compensation has been given to all

those farmers whose land had been acquired for erecting fencing along Indo-Pakistan border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected.

[English]

Development of Agriculture

174. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to pay greater attention to the development of Agriculture;

(b) if so, the schemes proposed to be adopted for different States to increase the agricultural production; and

(c) the details of steps taken to finalise the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A list of Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in various states is enclosed as statement. The Schemes for implementation during the Ninth Five Year Plan have still not been finalized.

STATEMENT

List of Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in States

S.No.	Name of Scheme
1	2

Agricultural Extension

1. National Agriculture Extension Project-I
2. Strengthening of Agril. Extension Training
3. Participation in National and International Fairs/Exhibitions and Farmers Exchange Programme
4. Production of Agricultural Films
5. National Agricultural Productivity Awards
6. Extension through voluntary Organisations.
7. Women in Agriculture.
8. National Agriculture Technical Project (NATP)

Agriculture Economics & Statistics

9. Agricultural Census Scheme.
10. Crop Estimation Survey of Fruits, Vegetables and Minor Crops/Diagnostic Studies.