

effectiveness as bacteria and other microbes develop resistance to them; and

(b) if so, the effective measures being taken to fight the ten biggest killer infectious diseases in the country to ensure that its socio-economic development is not crippled by the burden of these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Drug resistance in most drugs used in the treatment of infectious diseases is attributed to indiscriminate use of antibiotics.

(b) In the National Programmes on Control on diseases proper combination of drugs, dosage/duration of treatment are prescribed for effective control of the major communicable diseases.

Mother and Child Care Facilities

1240. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have shifted from demographic targets to mother and child care facilities;

(b) whether this shift has brought about any change in the attitude of those opposed to family planning on grounds of orthodoxy and rigidity in views; and

(c) if so, the what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has been replaced by a system of decentralised planning at the Primary Health Centre level. The Primary Health Centre level planning will take into account the needs of the community and is expected to lead to improvement in quality of services as well as greater acceptance by the people.

Cochin Port Containers Strike

1241. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of Cochin Port containers strike;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The blockade of containers moving to and from Cochin Port with effect from 25th June, 1996 by Cochin Port Labour Union was to protest against non-usage of private labour pools by a private Container Freight Station viz. Asian Terminals. Other trade unions have

also objected to the private CFS engaging outside workers to work in the Container Freight Station.

(c) Consequent to a meeting held by the Port Trust on 26.6.96 with the representatives of all concerned unions, steamer agents, etc., the blockade has been lifted.

[Translation]

Linking of Roads

1242. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to link the dense populated rural areas of National Capital Territory of Delhi with National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be taken up for implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for maintenance and development of National Highways in the country. All roads other than National Highways are primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The proposed roads are State roads and responsibility lies with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[English]

Modernisation of Jetties

1243. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any centrally sponsored scheme for the modernisation of jetties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kerala Government has implemented this scheme from 1991;

(d) whether the Union Government had given 50 percent of the total amount spent; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under this scheme Government of India provides loan assistance to State Governments for implementation of various IWT Schemes including Modernisation of Jetties

(c) The scheme of the Kerala Government for modernisation of 55 passenger jetties was sanctioned by the Government of India in January, 1993. As per the latest progress report furnished by the State Government of Kerala, out of the 55 jetties sanctioned for modernisation, 37 "C" type and 3 "B" type jetties have been completed so far