

[English]

Medical Facilities to Pensioners and their Family Members

976. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the pensioners/and their families are not provided the same medical facilities as are provided to serving Central Government Employees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to extend the same medical facilities to Pensioners and their family members as are available to Central Government Employees; and

(c) the comparative chart showing the Medical facilities available to serving employees and that of available to the Pensioners windows and their family members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) The Pensioners & their Families residing in areas covered by CGHS Dispensaries are being provided the same medical facilities that are provided to serving Central Government employees. For the Pensioners residing in areas not covered by CGHS, the Government have issued orders for payment of medical allowance of Rs. 100/- per month for their day to day treatment. They have also been permitted to register themselves with the nearest CGHS Dispensary on payment of prescribed subscription, so that they may avail of Hospitalisation/ Indoor Treatment through CGHS and claim medical expenditure, therefor.

Proposals of Certain Communities from Autonomous Hill Districts

977. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has bought opinion of the Autonomous Councils of Assam in regard to scheduling of certain communities residing in the Autonomous Hill Districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cochar Hills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such opinion shall be sought before considering any proposal to amend the Schedule Tribe order act in respect of Assam also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Autonomous State Demand Committee, Karbi Students' Association, Dimasa Students' Union, Karbi Nimso Chingthur Asong and Dimasa Women Society in their memorandum dated 12 May, 1998 have requested the Government that they should hold discussion with Kabri Anglong Autonomous Council, North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council and MLAs & MPs of the Hill areas of Assam on the issue of Scheduling of certain communities in the list Scheduled Tribes of Assam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The proposal has been forwarded to the Government of Assam for their comments.

Rise in AIDS cases in Andhra Pradesh

978. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether AIDS cases in Andhra Pradesh is rising;

(b) whether 7,686 cases were found in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years;

(c) whether the study conducted by Medical Centre and Research Foundation revealed that the number of HIV carriers was increasing due to lack of awareness of safe sex;

(d) whether the incidence was more in Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, East and Godavari Districts and part of Orissa;

(e) whether any concrete measures and steps are being taken by the Union Government to help and assess the State Government for checking AIDS cases in North Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The number of AIDS cases reported in Andhra Pradesh is 52 and sero positive are 4252.

(c) Government is not aware about any such Study but, Evaluation Study done by the State AIDS Cell reveal that 57% of the general public are aware of AIDS. 80% of the Commercial Sex Workers; 87% among the Truck Drivers and 85% among the Blood Donors are aware of AIDS.