

(b) It is due to the increase in life expectancy at Birth and changes in the life style.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is strengthening the existing schemes of :

1. Regional Cancer Centres.
2. Development of Oncology Wings in Medical Colleges.
3. Installation of Cobalt-60 Teletherapy Unit.
4. District Cancer Control Programme.
5. Financial assistance to NGOs for awareness and early detection of cancer as provided under National Cancer Control Programme.

Allotment of LPG Agencies

296. SHRI ANUPLAL YADAV :

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG agencies allotted during 1995, 1996 and 1997 separately, State-wise;

(b) the number out of these agencies allotted to SCs/STs, Statewise;

(c) the number of applications still pending for allotment of such agencies, State-wise;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for clearance; and

(e) the number and locations of such agencies proposed to be allotted in Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa and Kerala during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Agricultural Labour

297. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given up the proposal for enacting a Central Legislation to protect the interests of the agricultural labourers in the country; and

(b) if not, the present position of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A proposal for enacting a Central Legislation to protect the interest of the agricultural labourers in the country is at the stage of consultation with various Ministries/Departments.

Permission for Combination of Anti-T.B. Drugs

298. SHRIMATI NISHA CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued a Gazette Notification under Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rule 1945 for not allowing certain combinations of Anti-T.B. drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allowed specific permission/No objection to certain favourites in violation of the law;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the extent to which unintended profit occurred to such manufacturers due to this and violation of the said Rule; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) The combinations of Pyrazinamide with Rifampicin and INH allowed as per recommended daily dose are as given below :-

Drugs	Minimum	Maximum
1. Rifampicin	450 mg.	600 mg.
2. INH	300 mg.	400 mg.
3. Pyrazinamide	1000 mg.	1500 mg.

The following fixed dose combination (FDCs) of Ethambutol with INH are also allowed:-

INH.	Ethambutol
200 mg.	600 mg.
300 mg.	800 mg.

(c) to (f) The Government has given its No objection to the Fixed dose combinations (FDCs) of the four anti-tubercular drugs provided these are within minimum and maximum daily dose requirement as stipulated under the respective Notifications and further the licence is granted by the State licensing authority only when the same meets with the bioavailability criteria.

However, State Governments have been intimated that the Government is reviewing and streamlining such combinations in view of the recent maximum and minimum dose requirement stipulated for FDCs of four anti-tubercular drugs by the World Health Organisation.

Exclusion of Netaji's name from War Monger's List

299. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa High Court in its landmark judgement had directed to exclude the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the list of war mongers;

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government in wake of the said judgement; and

(c) the reasons for remaining the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the list of war mongers even after getting the independence ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration.

Elderly Persons in India

300. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLMELA :

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of adolescents and elderly persons in the country as per recent report of the United Nations Population Fund;

(b) the steps proposed by the Government to create more jobs to accommodate young workers to reduce unemployment; and

(c) the measures taken to provide social security, financial aid and adequate medical facilities to elderly people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

National Blood Transfusion Council

301. SHRI R.S. GAVAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more implementation authority to National Blood Transfusion Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons contracted AIDS through blood transfusion;

(d) the salient features of the draft National Blood Policy; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The National Blood Transfusion Council which has been set up as a result of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement will over-see and coordinate the functioning of blood transfusion services. National AIDS Control Organisation would function as facilitator in the Programme.

(c) As on 31st October, 1998 out of 6609 full blown AIDS cases, 538 (8.14%) were through blood transfusion.

(d) and (e) The objective of the Draft National Blood Policy is to plan for development of nation-wide system in order to ensure easily accessible and adequate supply of safe and quality blood and components for all irrespective of economic or social status. The Policy would aim to improve the quality of blood transfusion services through a comprehensive and total management approach. The Draft National Blood Policy aims at the following strategy for providing safe blood and blood products;

i) Strengthening the National Blood Transfusion Services making it an integral part of the health care system.