

(a) whether government are aware that International Planned Parenthood Federation has pointed out India's large percentage of maternal mortality;

(b) if so, the causes of high percentage of maternal mortality; and

(c) the measures Government had taken to reduce maternal mortality?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The maternal mortality rate in the country is estimated to be 4 to 5 per thousand live births.

(b) The causes of high percentage of maternal mortality are Anaemia, Bleeding due to pregnancy and Puerperium, Toxemia of pregnancy, Puerperal Sepsis, Abortion etc.

(c) To reduce maternal mortality, Government have taken steps to implement a package of action as part of the State sector plan and as Centrally sponsored schemes for expansion of health network, training of health workers, traditional birth attendants, supply of delivery kits etc. The services provided are care of the women during pregnancy, during delivery and postnatal period. The expansion of post-partum scheme under family welfare programme and intensification of schemes for immunisation, prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and supplementary nutrition under ICDS are some of the other steps taken by the Government to reduce maternal mortality rates.

Report of Study Team Regarding Indian Workers In Gulf Countries

8950. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received

the report submitted by the team which visited the Gulf Countries to study the problems of Indian workers there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation made various recommendations relating to simplification of procedures, deployment of agricultural labour, fixing of wages etc.

(c) The recommendations are under the consideration of Government.

Prices of Polyester Staple Fibre/Yarn

8951. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of polyester blended yarns for the last one year;

(b) the justification for increase in the prices;

(c) whether polyester staple fibre (PSF) prices have recently gone down while prices of blended yarns have increased; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to bring down the prices of blended yarns?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Quarterly prices of polyester blended yarns for the last one year are as given below: