

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : It depends on the type and degree of the disease and what type of injection is needed for that. There can be no relief to the patient suffering from insulin-dependent diabetes without insulin injection. Now I have seen that diabetics keep a disposable syringe and they themselves take injection on time and protect themselves against it.

The second method does not necessarily require insulin injection; the patients can do without it also. It can be controlled through regulated diet.

[English]

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Is the hon. Minister aware that detailed research is going on in the western countries in respect of transplantation of pancreas gland in human beings—the gland which produces insulin in the body? If so, is any similar research going on in this country and the findings thereof?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Sir, many researches are going on in our country. I can give the picture of our Seventh Five Year Plan allocation.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Is any research going on?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Research is going on in many other areas but not for this particular thing. Indian Council of Medical Research is doing something in this area.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether she is aware that drugs meant to cure diabetes purchased by her department for supply in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries are spurious and the same drugs are issued to the Members of Parliament and other patients and if someone raises objection, they say that they do

not have tablets other than these? Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a lot of bungling (*Interruptions*) in the purchase of different lots of tablets supplied by the dispensaries whether they are being run for the Members of Parliament or for other beneficiaries. The people are facing a lot of trouble because the medicines that are being issued are spurious ones. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : There is no such complaint in my knowledge that sub-standard drugs are being issued. I shall get it inquired if Vyasji gives me a specific case. Nevertheless, I do not at all agree that sub-standard drugs are being distributed in all dispensaries at all places. I do not agree with it at all.

[English]

Food for Learning Scheme of Andhra Pradesh

*642. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sent "Food for Learning" Scheme to Union Government for forwarding it to the World Bank for assistance;

(b) the number of children who will be benefited from this scheme and the expenditure involved in the implementation of the scheme; and

(c) the reaction of World Bank towards the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c) No proposal for assistance from the World Bank was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

I am sorry there is a serious mistake in the question. I would request the hon.

Member to verify again and write to me, if necessary. But I am quite sure that no assistance from the World Bank has been asked for and we have not received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. I have made a thorough search. I would request the hon. Member to look into the details which he has with him, once again.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : I have received the information about a scheme namely "food for learning" to benefit nearly 11.2 lakh children in 15 districts to provide mid-day meals to these children while learning. As far as my information goes it was sent. But I am thankful you have clarified the matter. When it is received by the Union Government, will it recommend to the World Bank for funding it? I would also like to know from the hon. Minister that since in the Directive Principles of the State Policy, we have stated that the Government will provide education at elementary level to all the children of this country and the goal has to be achieved, yet and since our godowns are filled with food stocks, namely, wheat and rice, will the Government take up this scheme to provide nutritious mid-day meals to the children belonging to the weaker sections at the elementary level so that this goal can be achieved much sooner?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : This is being considered. The Prime Minister has already made an announcement in this behalf and I am sure since we have surplus stocks of food, the Prime Minister has also disagreed with the idea, over-ruled the idea of sending food to others or selling food to other countries. So, we will be using our surplus food primarily for our people, those who cannot afford to buy and that scheme is being worked out by the Food Ministry. But the question is about the World Bank assistance. I am sure there is a mistake and if he could give me the details, after verifying what exactly he wants to know then I will be able to give information.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Karamveer

Bhaurao Patil had launched a scheme named 'Earn-while-you-are-learning' in Maharashtra. Based on that scheme, many voluntary organisations are running similar schemes. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether keeping in view the position of foodgrains bufferstock in the country, Government would consider giving foodgrains free of cost to the voluntary organisations running these schemes to be distributed among the poor children as a relief?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, we have drifted a lot from the original question but even then it can be considered. However, I cannot make any commitment right now.

[*English*]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, nutrition is still the neglected step-child of the Government though it plays a key role in promoting health and longevity and preventing disease. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned there is a scheme called 'Nutritious meal scheme' by which they are feeding about 83 lakh children every day including old-aged pensioners. The Tamil Nadu Government is spending about 200 crores of rupees every year. Through this scheme, we are not only giving one square meal a day but we are also giving free education to the children by which actually 83 lakh children are being fed and also being given education. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such a scheme will be introduced in all the other States emulating Tamil Nadu. So far as this scheme is concerned, a small allocation has been made by the Centre. But it is a meagre allocation. Will the Government of India come forward to give the entire amount which has already been spent by the Tamil Nadu Government?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : We would be very happy if other States also emulate the Tamil Nadu Government. That is all I can say at the moment. But the question is something different. We are not discussing mid-day meals. When the Demands for the Ministry of Human Resources Development come up, that will be the time when we could discuss all these things in great detail.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is asking for the AIMMK Government in every State.

SHRI ANANDA GANAPATHI RAJU : There is a lot of mal-nutrition in the villages and the whole generation is likely to be affected. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had started a scheme earlier, but it had to give it up because of paucity of funds. I have a suggestion to make and which I will put across to the hon. Minister. That is, the Ministry of Human Resources Development and the Ministry of Health may join together and start some scheme in every State including our State so that the generation will be saved and children will not be put to this type of problem.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : In the case of Andhra Pradesh, paucity of funds has compelled them to stop this scheme half-way or mid-way; in the case of other States, presumably paucity of funds has stopped them from starting this scheme. I am not in a position to say whether the Centre will underwrite all this, because the money has to come from the same kitty. If we have to do this, then we will have to cut down on something else. At the moment, the Central Government has no scheme of financing mid-day meals, in any of the States, but we will certainly like mid-day meals to be started and implemented in the States and the State Governments to make some provision in their own budgets which has not been done so far.

Samples of Imported Bulk Drugs and Drug Formulations

*645. **SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that samples are drawn of bulk drugs as well as drug formulations being imported in the country before clearing from the customs;

(b) if so, names of the bulk drugs and formulations samples of which were drawn during the last three years;

(c) the names of laboratories where the drugs were tested; and

(d) what action is taken by Government on such test reports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Samples are drawn for test in case drugs imported for the first time. Random samples are lifted from consignments of the same drug received from the same manufacturer, imported subsequently.

(b) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(c) Names of Government and approved private laboratories engaged in testing of drugs are given in the attached statement.

(d) If a drug on test is reported not of standard quality by a statutory testing laboratory, the drug is either exported back to the country of origin or destroyed.

Statement

NAMES OF GOVERNMENT AND APPROVED PRIVATE LABORATORIES

GOVERNMENT TESTING LABORATORIES

1. The Central Drugs Laboratory, Calcutta.
2. The Central Research Institute, Kasauli.
3. The Central Indian Pharmacopoeia Laboratory, Ghaziabad.
4. The Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, U.P.

APPROVED PRIVATE TESTING LABORATORIES

1. M/s. Analytical Testing Services (P) Ltd., New Delhi.
2. M/s. Shri Ram Test House, Delhi.