

not asked in detail. The hon. Member wanted to know whether there is any directive from the Government of India to the State Governments regarding the import of these appliances and equipment. Are these instruments and equipment coming as aid from Denmark, UNICEF and UK or the Government of India is purchasing them? Is the Minister aware of the fact that intra-uterine devices like loop and other things which the Government of India is importing, of the same specifications are available in our country at cheaper rates and leproscopes are also available in our country at cheaper rates? In the name of World Health Organisation, we are taking advantage and importing these items from foreign countries like USA and West Germany and not getting them from our own indigenous sources.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: I have clearly stated that we have been getting leproscopes from two companies only. Some of them we get as donation and some of them we purchase. If the hon. Member is interested to know the number of leproscopes which were purchased by the Ministry I have got the figures. There is no confusion in my reply, Sir. I think if the hon. Member wants to know, I can give the detailed information which is available with me now.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: I was saying about loops. We have purchased lot of loops from USA and have spent Rs. fifteen per loop, whereas it is available at Rs. three per loop in our country. Crores of rupees have been swindled in this deal.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C.P. THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is aware that the use of new equipment is on an increase in the modern medicine system. Does the Central Government propose to constitute a committee which may enlist such equipments, and recommend to the Department of Industry to

manufacture these equipments and apparatus within the country?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the concern of the hon. Member. We also want that we should make proper use of the indigenous apparatus. We have said it clearly that there is no bar in using the I.S.I. marked apparatus which is suitable.

[*English*]

Training of physicians for AIDS cure

*372. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking special measures to train physicians in the management of health problems created by the increasing number of AIDS cases;

(b) if so, the details of planning done to train doctors for the treatment of AIDS patients; and

(c) whether Government have sent some doctors abroad with AIDS centres for getting training in the treatment of AIDS; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has planned phased training programmes for medical and for para-medical personnel in the field of clinical management of AIDS cases.

(c) Four doctors and two nurses were sent abroad for getting training in clinical management of AIDS cases.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all know that this dreaded disease is

more dangerous than even cancer. Cancer is a slow killer but people try to get treatment and live long. But those who acquire AIDS, on the one hand, because of social fear, may not come out and expose themselves to the society or to the doctor and, on the other hand, continue to transmit this disease through contacts with other sex. Apart from the contact, it is said that this disease can be transmitted through blood transfusion also. So, I would like to know whether you have got any mechanism to test the blood before it is given to the patient to see whether it is free from AIDS or not. There are many dispensaries and hospitals, both public and private, which transfuse blood to patients but where testing facilities are not available. So, what are you going to do about this?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): Sir, intensive efforts are being made to make AIDS-free blood available in different parts of India. Currently, about 1.5 million units of blood are collected annually all over the country. In each of the cities of Bombay, Madras, Delhi and Calcutta, we are making all these arrangements and ten testing centres will be established for undertaking antibody screening of blood donors.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this disease is mainly transmitted through male and female contacts. We know that in Bombay and in other metropolitan cities in some clusters the business of prostitution is carried on. They being the potential carriers, we can test their blood for this disease. But what happens if the prostitutes are sporadic in the society and if their blood is not tested? For example, some time back in Rajdoot Hotel, seventy-five call girls were arrested. We get many foreign tourists visiting India and knowingly or unknowingly if through such call girls this disease is transmitted and then it spreads, then it will acquire very alarming proportions in a backward country like India. What preventive meas-

ures can we take in this regard? Have you got something in mind in this regard?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Sir, as far as AIDS hazard is concerned, we have got 40 surveillance centres in the country and about 1,66,000 persons have been screened and out of this figure of 1,66,000, only 532 cases have been found positive and these persons do not carry AIDS immediately. They have to be taken care of and for the coming 7 to 10 years, they have to be properly examined, properly cared for in the hospitals. Therefore, we have chalked out a programme and the doctors have been sent to the foreign countries for training; the nurses have been sent for training and they will be located in the places. I can tell the hon. Member that in the first phase a number of doctors have been sent and in the second phase the Director General (Health Services) has drawn up a programme for conducting training forces on a regional basis in holding workshops in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Bhubaneswar and in each of these workshops, 20 medical officers are proposed to be trained in the diagnosis and clinical management of AIDS. So, this is the programme they are going to launch. But in our country, AIDS is not panicky at the moment. But we are very very careful and the steps are being taken that it should not spread and if it is found anywhere medical facilities should be available as also in the metropolitan cities and in the second phase, we would extend it to other cities also.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: Sir, a number of cases of AIDS quoted were from Tamil Nadu. Is there any chance for the Minister to consider the request of sending more physicians from Tamil Nadu to get training for AIDS and AIDS care. Is there any possibility? I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal with the Government to screen all the foreigners coming to India for AIDS.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: As I have said, 20 medical doctors are proposed to be trained in Tamil Nadu and Bhubaneshwar, Delhi and Bombay in the first instance and the AIIMS has prepared guidelines for the management of patients infected with this disease. AIIMS has also prepared guidelines for treatment of these patients. So, for all these things, we are taking steps.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: Is there any proposal to screen the foreigners who are coming to India?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Those students who are coming for studies carry proper certificates and it is done here.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: What about the tourists, Sir?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: We have no plan at the moment.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, from the answer given, it transpires that the Government is doing something in this direction, 4 doctors and two nurses were sent abroad for training. On their return also the Government is arranging for some training inside the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in regard to the tourists' centres where there is heavy influx of international tourists which are exposed to this danger, with this end Govt have any programme for starting some preliminary centres to detect AIDS among the people and take necessary follow-up measures in this regard.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: We have got 40 surveillance centres in this year and by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, we will be extending this facility from 40 to 150 centres. As the hon. Member has said about the tourists places, the surveillance centres near the tourists places will serve the screening of the persons coming to the tour-

ist places. So, the problem will not be there for testing them.

Concessions to Textile Industry and their benefits to consumers

*373. **SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI†:**
SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of concessions have been given in Gujarat and other States to textile industry and man-made fibres and yarns during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the benefits of these concessions have been passed on to the consumers; and

(d) if so, to what extent and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d). The details of concessions given in the State of Gujarat and other States to textile industry and man-made fibres and yarns during the last three years, etc. are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that details regarding concessions during the last 3 years are being collected and that is why he has been unable to send its final report. In this regard, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to when is the final report expected and when will he present it in the