

Change in Procurement Policy of Wheat

7162. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the procurment policy for wheat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefit likely to be accured to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b). The thrust of Government procurement policy has been to ensure adequate price support to farmers so that distress sale does not occur. During current rabi marketing season, all movement restrictions have been removed and traders and roller flour mills have been allowed to operate freely in the market.

The Reserve Bank of India has liberalised credit facilities to roller flour mills and it is hoped that this will help roller flour mills to make adequate purchases from farmers.

The procurement price of wheat be marketed during 1990-91 season has been raised from Rs. 200/- per quintal to Rs. 215/- per quintal. The higher procurement price is expected to give an incentive to farmers for increasing production.

Supply of Kerosene oil in Villages of Delhi

7163. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people living in the villages and jhuggi-jhonpri colonies are facing shortage of kerosene oil in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for not supplying kerosene oil as per their requirements;

(c) whether complaints of malpractices and irregularities in supplying the kerosene oil have been received, if so, the details thereof, and the action taken on these complaints;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the shopkeepers who were found guilty of malpractices in the supply of kerosene; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to eliminate the malpractices and the smooth Supply of kerosene oil in the villages and J.J. Colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A few complaints of irregularities in the supply of kerosene oil were received by Delhi Administration. These were checked and Departmental action taken against two licences.

(e) The officials of Delhi Administration are exercising strict vigil on the activities of the dealers to check malpractices and maintaining smooth supply of Kerosene Oil in these areas.

Leprosy and T.B. Patients Statewise

7164. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leprosy and T.B. patient in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been any increase in the number of such patients during

the last three years and if so, the State-wise increase therein;

(c) whether any steps are being taken for the eradication of these diseases;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any grant is provided by Government to voluntary organisations looking after these patients;

(f) if so, the names of such organisations and the year-wise amount of financial and other assistance provided during the last three years; and

(g) the policy and criteria for providing financial and other assistance to such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (g). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Inquiry Committee of Electropathy/
Electro-Homoeopathy**

7165. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have constituted an Inquiry Committee on Electropathy/Electro-homoeopathy on 1 September, 1988 and its report was to be presented on 31 December, 1989;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has since submitted its report to Government;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) It is correct that an Inquiry Committee on Electropathy/Electro-homoeopathy System of Medicine was constituted on 1st September, 1988 and its report was to be submitted on 31st December, 1989 but as the Inquiry Committee could not complete its work by that date, its term was extended upto 30th April, 1990.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Inquiry Committee is likely to complete its work by 30th April, 1990. Thereafter, the report of the Committee will be finalised and submitted to the Government of India.

**Specialised Eye Care Centres in
Karnataka**

7166. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blinds in Karnataka;

(b) whether Government propose to open specialised eye care centres in Karnataka to cure and check blindness; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) 4.79 lakhs are estimated to be blind in the State of Karnataka.

(b) and (c). The Regional Institute of Ophthalmology at Bangalore provides specialised eye care services in the State. There is no proposal to open more specialised eye care centres in Karnataka for the present.