

(a) whether the Union Government have sent a team to Bihar to conduct a survey on Kalazar; and

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY): (a) and (b). An expert team under the Chairmanship of Dr. C.P. Thakur, visited, Darbhanga and Sahibganj districts of Bihar and Murshidabad of West Bengal for an on the spot assessment of implementation of Kala-azar Control Programme at various levels.

The comments and recommendations made by the Expert Committee are as under:—

1. Strengthening of diagnostic facilities at PHC level—by training at least one PHC medical officer and one technician and providing equipment for bone marrow and splenic puncture test—for confirmed diagnosis.
2. District level—Bone marrow and Splenic puncture tests should be made available.
3. Advance centre—Medical Colleges hospitals in Bihar and West Bengal should be developed for research and training.
4. Follow-up—System of follow-up of patients during and after treatment should be ensured with fixing accountability to specific officers at all levels.
5. Treatment schedule—Sodium Stibo Gluconate (S.A.G.) should

be given at least for 20 days and may be extended upto 30 days at a dose of 20mg/k.g. of body wt. (Maximum of 850 mg.) as 1st line of treatment.

Pentamidine should be given at a dose of 4mg. of body weight on alternate day as a 2nd line of treatment only if the patient remains unresponsive to 1st line of drug.

6. D.D.T. Spray—2 rounds of DDT spray in a year (Feb-March and May-June) in all indoor surfaces upto a height of 6 feet from ground level.
7. Timely release of funds—The fund should be released by State well in time to facilitate district level officers.
8. Possibility of funding by external agencies may be explored.
9. A well developed management information system is needed.

[English]

#### **Ban on Advertisement of Pan Masala and Cigarettes**

1048. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT:  
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to ban the advertisement of Pan Masala and Cigarettes in newspapers, magazines, posters and electronic Media as they are not good for health and advertisements give a fillip to their popularity and sale;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY): (a) to (c). Under the provisions of PFA Rules, 1955, every package of 'Pan Masala' and advertisements relating thereto shall carry the following warning, namely:—

"Chewing of Pan Masala may be injurious to Health".

The Government has also decided to discontinue broadcast telecast of advertisement on 'pan masala' over AIR/TV keeping in view the consideration of public health.

The Government has also banned advertisements of cigarettes and other tobacco based products in official media like AIR/TV, etc. Advertisements of tobacco products have been banned in sports arena and also in other public places. In other advertisements appearing in newspapers, magazines, packets of cigarettes, etc., statutory warning that 'Smoking is injurious to health' is being displayed.

[*Translation*]

#### **Inferior Rice to Delhi**

1049. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat and rice of inferior quality is being supplied in various ration shops of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to supply better quality of wheat and rice to ration card-holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) to (c). Food Corporation of India is supplying fair average quality of wheat and rice as per approved specifications. Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation checks the stock at the time of obtaining supply to see that good quality material is transported to Fair Price Shops. The Fair Price Shops display representative samples of food articles at their shops to enable the consumer to compare the quality.

Since massive operations are involved, it is possible that there may be a few instances, where ration of comparatively poor quality is allegedly supplied. Arrangements have been made to replace the commodity in such cases if reported within prescribed time.

[*English*]

#### **Environmental Safeguards In Master Plan**

1050. SHRI HARISH PAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Master Plan for the Capital (Delhi) has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the facilities to be provided in the rural areas from environmental point of view?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) and (b). The modified Master Plan for Delhi with perspective of 2001 which came into force w.e.f. 18.90 recommends the provision of water supply, medical, health and education facilities etc. in the rural areas of Delhi.