

under the State Government which are working quite efficiently. They are manned by trained personnel. They play a major role but we welcome the participation of voluntary agencies, the number of which is quite large but they are given very little money. The funds are mainly provided to the State Governments. The hon. Member is quite right in saying that the condition of forests is serious. In view of this, it was envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan to strengthen this Board. There are many other schemes for further afforestation. I hope that much more extensive programmes will be prepared for the Eighth Five Year Plan, so that some solution is found to this serious problem.

[English]

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government has received a representation from the Darjeeling Tea Planters' Association for allowing them in Darjeeling to raise tea plantations in the forest waste and fallow land under the Forest Department; if so, what action the Government is going to take regard to their representation ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The plantation do not come under our Ministry . The Ministry of Commerce deals with it. As regards reserved forest tea area or other area, it is according to the policy of the State Government.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: A representation has already been made to the State Government and the State Government says that they have already referred the matter to the Central Government. That is a problem.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I want a separate notice for that.

Campaign Against Spread of AIDS

*826. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT†:
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:

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

(a) whether the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) have jointly undertaken a coordinated campaign in the Pune city against the spread of AIDS:

(b) whether Union Government propose to launch similar campaigns in other big cities in coordination with the National Institute of Virology; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The National Institute of Virology jointly with the Pune Municipal Corporation had collected blood samples from prostitutes to conduct tests for HIV infection. The results of the tests were communicated to the Pune Municipal Corporation, who will issue health cards which will enable the prostitutes to obtain medicare and treatment facilities periodically. The National Institute of Virology is also screening the blood of persons belonging to other high risk groups such as blood donors and patients suffering from sexually transmitted diseases by obtaining blood samples from hospitals managed by Government and the Corporation.

Indian Council of Medical Research in collaboration with the State Governments has established 40 surveillance centres in 30 cities. These surveillance centres are also screening the blood of persons belonging to high risk groups for detecting HIV infection. It is also proposed to establish clinics for medicare and counselling facilities in metropolitan cities in areas where prostitutes reside in large numbers. Priority is given to four big cities for screening of all blood donations and facilities for blood screening are under expansion in these cities.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some four-five years ago, AIDS was unheard of in India. Some four years ago a report appeared in the newspapers that one case of AIDS was detected and later, it was discussed in the House also. As far as I remember, it was said that foreigners visiting the country might have brought AIDS and he might be the source of this disease. It seems it is going to spread widely. Every day we read in the newspapers about the death of a number of people due to this disease. Many cases have been reported in Bombay also. May I know the nature of investigations carried in Pune, the number of people examined and the number of cases of AIDS detected in Pune? What preventive steps the Government is going to take to check the spread of this disease?

[*English*]

KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE: The hon. Member has asked what we have been doing in Pune. The facilities we have earmarked for Bombay will be made available to Pune City. The facilities for testing will be available at the following four institutions.

- (1) The National Institute of Virology, Pune;
- (2) B.J. Medical College, Pune;
- (3) Armed Forces Medical College, Pune; and
- (4) S.T.D. Centre of Pune, Municipal Corporation area.

The routine area surveillance activities will be increased with the help of the above four Service Centres. One additional STD Centres will be established in Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) out of the proposed four new STD Centres to be sanctioned for Maharashtra State. Regarding the control of the disease and the steps taken by the Government, I would like to mention it here that the Government have taken a number of

steps to control the disease for preventing the import of this disease in the country. As I have mentioned just now, on Surveillance of AIDS Programme for screening persons belonging to high risk groups work was started in the country in the year 1985. It has also been intensified by public education, through mass media and expansion of surveillance activity and training of workers to build up capacity to detection, diagnosis and treatment of AIDS cases. Presently 40 Surveillance Centres and four referral centres are functioning in the country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: No reply has been given to my pertinent question. I wanted to know the number of persons examined and the number of cases of AIDS detected. It is necessary to find out the causes first before finding its cure, as it will facilitate to find out the cure. First of all, you should find out as to how AIDS came to India. Four years ago, no one heard of it, but now it is fast spreading. So this disease can only be cured, when its causes are known.

[*English*]

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: About the first part of the question, I would like to mention here that the National Institute of Virology, Pune and the Pune Municipal Corporation have jointly carried out a survey of prostitutes in the red light area of Sukrarpet, Pune between 24th and 30th March, 1989. During this period the blood samples collected and examined were as under:

Number of blood samples: 147

Number of prostitutes
Sero positive: 3

In Bombay out of 1,649 blood samples of prostitutes up to December, 1988, 763 found to be sero positive. These prostitutes pose of potential threat to public health. They can transfer the disease to a large number of persons. HRE positive women can transmit

the disease to the people and the National Institute of Virology is also testing wood donors and STD patients. The results of surveillance at the NIV, Pune up to 321st March, 1989 are as follows:-

Blood samples:	11,550
Sero positive:	69
Prostitutes:	6
STD patients:	29
Blood donors:	22
Foreign students:	29
Total	69

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: My question is regarding advertisements about AIDS. It is very important to educate the people. In Delhi in the buses the advertisement reads like this; "Ajnabi mard our Paraiyee aurat se sampark na karen"

Now, the objectionable thing is here, why the women has to be *Paraiyee*? The women has to be somebody else, either your own or somebody else's? Can it not be their own? It is a wrong kind of understanding we are giving to the people in the society. *Mard* has got to be *Ajnabi*, *Aurat* has to be *Paraiyee*? This is a wrong thing and you try to change it. This is my request.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: It has been the endeavour of my Ministry to arouse maximum public consciousness in this regard. We will examine the suggestion made by you.

[*English*]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Mr. Speaker, is it a fact that one of the sources of spreading of AIDS in Pune city is foreign students coming for studies in the University of Pune? About one hundred rupees is being charged

for medical test, but no tests are held upto now. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Not only AID but external AID ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRISHARADDIGHE: Therefore, may I know from the Minister whether the Government will take steps to compel Pune University to take medical test of foreign students before their admission to this University?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, the hon. Member has brought to my notice something about the Pune Hospital. I can assure the House and the hon. Member also that I will definitely look into the matter.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the flow of the House, we have several times discussed about the genesis of AIDS and how it is more a dangerous disease than third grade cancer. People are not aware of this danger. And the Minister is regularly telling that it is much more susceptible only to the prostitutes. I want to know, whether in our country the persons who are coming from the endemic and epidemic areas of the western land are being test for presence of antibodies and HIV virus. If not, whether the Minister will contact the External Ministry and conduct this test regularly.

We must test and screen the blood of the prostitutes and blood donors. At the same time, I would like to know, whether the Minister is aware of the fact that in Pune and Bombay, gammaglobin which has been produced by the nine multi-national companies, where the tests sterility, and hepatic virus is positive or not and AIDS virus in the serum is present or not, has not been done. It is learnt that those companies have been closed. I would like to know from the Minister any prosecution has made against those nine culprits.

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: With regard to the last part of the question. I would like to mention here that the whole stock of

the concerned companies have been destroyed.

Sir, regarding the foreign students, the hon. Member was asking...*(Interruptions)*

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: For all the persons. Though we cannot totally agree with Dr Paintal's recommendations, we have to do it. Or else, the country will go to dogs...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: We have already issued the guidelines for screening the foreigners for AIDS test. For foreign students, I have got a very long list. If the hon. Member is interested, he can come and discuss with me about this. I will circulate the list to him and to this House also.

Facilities for Detection and Treatment of Cancer

*830. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether existing facilities for detection and treatment of Cancer in different parts of the country are adequate; and

(b) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to augment these facilities, especially in cities where the incidence of the disease is rising very high?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the cancer control programme facilities for detection and treatment of cancer are being augmented in different parts of the country. Government of India are providing financial assistance for the following:-

(i) nine Regional Cancer Research

and Treatment Centres for the purchase of equipments.

(ii) Government and non-Government institutions engaged in provision of cancer treatment for purchase of Cobalt Therapy Units.

(iii) for setting up of Early Cancer Detection Centres and PAP Smear Testing Units.

Computerised Tomography Scanners have been provided in 1985-86 under the Japanese Aid programme, to Cancer Institute, Madras; All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Post graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh and K.G. Medical College, Lucknow. Five more C.T. Scanners are being provided, under the same programme to S.M.H.S. Hospital, Srinagar; S.M.S. Medical College and Hospital, Jaipur; Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Gwalior; Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad and M.N.J. Cancer Hospital and Radium Institute, Hyderabad. Under another project, sophisticated equipments are to be supplied with Japanese Assistance to Cancer Institute, Madras.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Sir, Computerised Tomography Scanners have been provided under the Japanese Aid Programme to some of the Cancer Institutes in the country. Kidwai Memorial Institute, Bangalore is one of the best institutes where a number of patients are being admitted and treated. But unfortunately, Bangalore Kidwai Institute has not been mentioned in the Minister's reply. Will the hon. Minister assure the House that she will supply the Computerised Tomography Scanners to Kidwai Cancer Institute also?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: If the State Government of Karnataka approaches us we will definitely do something in this regard.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: A number of