

**SHRI JAGANNATH RAO :** Sir, there are about 5000 blocks in the country. Has the Government any information as to the success of the family planning programmes in each block? I would like to know whether any incentive is promised to be given to each block for the success of this family planning programme.

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR :** We are monitoring and reviewing the programme performance in all the 412 districts and 5000 community development blocks in the country. We have people's structures, governmental structures at the block level. We want to involve the BDOs and all other developmental functionaries working in other on going socio-economic programmes, the question of incentive is a general question and it is applicable throughout the country. Sir, we have instituted community awards at the national, and State levels. We are contemplating the issue of giving national awards to block levels and to all functionaries at the State and subordinate levels engaged in the programme.

**SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :** Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has not given information regarding sterilisation operations done in 1984-85. May I know from the hon. Minister how many Laproscopic Tubectomy and Vasectomy operations have been performed in the Sixth Five Year Plan? How many of them have failed in the Sixth Five Year Plan?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR :** Sir, we have the figures here. But I would not be able to give sub-methodwise figures for vasectomy and tubectomy operations because, I would require a separate notice for this.

**Regional Conference of W.H.O. Re. Communicable Diseases**

\*244. **SHRI ANAND SINGH :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether at a Regional Conference of the World Health Organisation (WHO) held in New Delhi towards the end of September, 1985, the progress made in

control and eradication of diseases like malaria and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), was reviewed; and

(b) if so, what specific aspects in respect of various communicable diseases were discussed?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) :** (a) and (b) The 38th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South East Asia Region in its meeting held on September 24—30, 1985 reviewed in general the progress made in the control/eradication of various diseases. The Committee noted that though there was a declining trend in Malaria incidence in the Region as a whole, there had been no technical break-throughs as yet in regard to the problems of parasite resistance to anti-malarials and vector resistance to insecticides. While discussing the problem of sexually transmitted diseases, a mention was made of the newly emerging disease viz. Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The Committee felt that the situation should be observed closely.

**SHRI ANAND SINGH :** It is reported in the newspaper that for diagnosis alone, it has cost about \$ 3,000 and secondly no hospital in India is fully equipped with the kind of equipment needed to diagnose it. But I stand to be corrected if my information is not correct. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such facilities are available in the hospitals. I would also like to know how many cases were analysed. If there are some, then how do you or the Government or anybody can claim that there is no AIDS in India?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR :** There has been no authentic case of AIDS reported so far in India. The Ministry has given instructions to all its field officers, all the Directors of Health Services and Medical Colleges to continue their surveillance for AIDS. The ICMR has initiated studies for high risk group and this is being done in a very extensive manner; the high risk group includes

the homo-sexual blood transfusion receivers and so on. Our clinical facilities and doctors are proficient enough to detect any case of AIDS anywhere in the country,

As regards treatment facilities, we have already set up a cell in the Institute of Virology at Poona for testing what are known as anti-bodies, which are preliminary to somebody getting the disease of AIDS. The situation is very much under control as far as India is concerned, and there is no cause for alarm.

SHRI ANAND SINGH : I would like to have a clarification before I move to the second supplementary. And that is : do you have the necessary facilities for detecting AIDS ?

MR. SPEAKER : He said that they have set up that.

SHRI ANAND SINGH : Have they got the equipment ? Which hospital has it ? It is not a case of just a doctor diagnosing a disease, whether you have malaria, typhoid or whatever it is, AIDS is a very sophisticated disease which has just come in. If it is so simple that any doctor can diagnose, then why in USA does it cost three thousand dollars only to diagnose?

Firstly, we should have necessary equipment. At least, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences or any other sophisticated hospital should have that. If it is there, the cases must have been detected. And I do not know how many cases have been analysed. You say that there is no case.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no case. How can they analyse without any case?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : I repeat that there has been no authentic case of AIDS reported in the country. (*Interruptions*). AIDS is such a disease which only a few countries have so far. There are many countries in the world where the disease has not spread. We are fully prepared to diagnose; first test and then diagnose the disease. This is in a very

preliminary stage. The Ministry is totally aware and conscious of this problem and we will be setting up the facilities as and when required.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : There were discussions in the recent conference about three communicable diseases. One is malaria. As the Minister has himself admitted, it has not been fully controlled. Malaria vaccine has been developed in the foreign countries. Is the Government aware of it and will the Government take steps to import vaccine for our country?

About the AIDS disease, will the Government take precautions to prevent spreading of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome virus, over from countries where it is prevalent, especially USA? Is the Government taking steps to have a health check-up at the airports so that the virus is prevented from entering our country? I would like to know whether the Government is aware that many parts of rural areas are resistant to streptomycin and other drugs available in our country. A recent report stated that a new drug has been discovered. I want to know whether the Government is aware of it and whether they got any information about the drug which deals with anti-streptomycin cases.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : The Malaria Control Programme was successful in almost eliminating malaria by 1965, when it was brought down to one lakh cases from about 75 million cases at the start of the programme in 1952. But we are aware that there has been a slight resurgence in malaria and now we have about 2.1 million cases. This year, we have been able to reduce the incidence of this disease by 15 per cent. We are aware of this and we have also set apart Rs. 373 crores in the VII Plan almost 40 per cent of our health budget for the malaria eradication programme.

As far as AIDS is concerned, I can list out the various steps taken by the Directorate General of Health Services and the ICMR for education, surveillance, detection and treatment of the disease. But I am not doing so because I do not want to

take the time of the House— As regards controls on foreign tourists in the Airports, we have to do this after a great deal of deliberation. We have alerted the sexually transmitted disease clinics near major airports to watch out for the incidence of the disease. We do not contemplate any other control, because no country in the world has so far imposed any such control on foreign tourists.

As regards tuberculosis, we diagnose about one and a half million patients a year. We have a reservoir of ten million patients of tuberculosis and at any time we treat about one and a half million patients a year. We have an educational programme and we are aware of the new drugs and we would be spending Rs. 55 crores for combating this disease in the Plan.

DR. A. KALANIDHI : Sir, I understand that two cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, i.e. AIDS are reported in Calcutta. This was disclosed in a medical conference held at Bombay. I want to know whether the Minister is aware of it and if so, what steps have been taken by the Ministry of Health. Another point is, the incidence of malaria in Madras city is 40 per cent. What action has been taken by the Ministry of Health?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : No official information about any AIDS case has been reported from Calcutta or elsewhere. As regards the recurrence of malaria in certain pockets, we immediately send teams. We are also re-establishing the vertical organisations of the malaria eradication programme, which we had dismounted in the middle sixties, because we thought then that we eradicated the disease. Now we have a programme and we are alert about the disease.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister through you whether the percentage of malarial cases and the demographical figures that are received in his Ministry are correct or not. 50 per cent of the malaria cases are resistant to insecticide spraying and chloroquin and other drugs, due to the presence of plasmodium felseiperim. So, from the demographic infor-

mation, the Minister should not conclude that malaria is eradicated. I would like to know whether any new preventive measures are being contemplated by the hon. Minister to eradicate malaria.

Secondly, regarding AIDS, the symptoms of AIDS are equal to first stage cancer symptoms...

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You don't explain all that !

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I will complete my question Sir. I want to know whether the Minister has instructed the ICMR and the Pune Virus Laboratory to go into the details and prepare a circular to be sent to all the district headquarter hospitals to diagnose and also to differentiate the AIDS from other diseases

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, as regards the malaria eradication programme, I am certainly guided by my technical officers who have run one of the best malaria eradication programmes in the world. Secondly, as regards the AIDS, I would like to repeat that we have given detailed instructions. The Director General of Health Services has given detailed instructions to all Directors of Health Services, STD Clinics, District Hospitals, and the entire infrastructure in the country to look out for the symptoms.

*[Translation]*

SHRI G. S. MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a similar disease has broken out among the tribals in Madhya Pradesh. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what arrangements have been made to check and to diagnose this disease ?

*[English]*

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : I will require notice for this.