

of questions were also asked in the other House. The Americans are wanting to buy the shares of this company ; the Italians are prepared to buy the shares of this company. I do not know how you can say that the company is sinking. We were also very much concerned . . . (Interruptions) If you are not prepared to listen, why should you raise the question at all ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, order.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We also got in touch with our Indian High Commissioner in U.K. As per the report received from the Indian High Commissioner in the U.K., M/s. Sikarsky of the USA and M/s. Fiat of Italy are buying a limited quantity of Westland shares. Our High Commissioner in London has confirmed that association of M/s. Westland with other firms would not result in any setback to Westland's manufacture of the series of helicopters which is of interest to India. The re-structuring is intended to provide a larger capital base and stronger financial viability to M/s. Westland and, therefore, we need not have any apprehension on this score. The High Commissioner confirmed that association of M/s Westland with other firms would not result in any setback to Westland's ; manufacture of the series of helicopters. . . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can lay it on the Table. Why are you reading it ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : All-right.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : These helicopters and this particular company, the Westland Company, seem to be jinxed and I hope that the jinx does not pass on to us. I would like to know from the Minister whether it is true that the ONGC, which will be operating these helicopters—of course you are also going to use them for short hops in places like the North East, but the ONGC will be the main user—has expressed strong reservation to the use of these helicopters. They have pointed out

in regard to the cost of operation that while it would take for the Westland Helicopters Rs. 1900 per hour, it would take only Rs. 1300 for the Daupins and Rs. 1100 only for the charters. That is number one. I would like to know whether they have expressed strong reservation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can put your question because there are a lot of questions.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : I would like to know the 10 million pounds that you are making much of as operations subsidy, how long would it will last if you are going to lose Rs. 800 per hour in the operation of these helicopters.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : The ONGC has accepted the Westland, I would like to inform you Sir, that the Westland will be a cheaper in run to the Daupins. I will give you the reasons. (Interruptions). . . Although the revised cost of the operation per hour is being worked out, it will be reduced by over 30%. The earlier cost was worked out only on the conventional financial basis. That has changed now. Because it has now been decided that the grant elements will be passed on to the Helicopter Corporation. So, it is not the ONGC that will be running these, it is the Helicopter Corporation of India which is now registered which will be running. (Interruptions). . . ONGC will be one of the users, but the other States will also be using this. Most of it will also go to the North-Eastern States. (Interruptions)

In the Cabinet I had taken up this and the Cabinet is of the view that the import duty should be exempted in the case of the oil sector.

[Translation]

People Suffering from Diabetes

*641. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether one out of every four persons in the country is suffering from diabetes ;

(b) whether this disease leads to blindness and fatal ailments like damage to kidneys and heart disease ; and

(c) whether any effective steps have been taken by Government and Scientists for prevention as well as cure from this disease ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) No comprehensive diabetes survey has been done in the country. A multi-centric study done by the Indian Council of Medical Research indicates the over-all prevalence of diabetes is 1.8 per cent.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Preventive measures usually consist of regulated diet and exercise. Government hospitals in urban areas usually have diabetic clinics wherein insulin and anti-diabetic drugs are available. Government intend to have a scheme during the Seventh Five Year Plan period for control of diabetes on a pilot basis.

Translation

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the fact that diabetes afflicts the children, the youth and the old, Government have any special scheme for the prevention of diabetes among the school-going children and college-going youth in the rural areas so as to protect their health ?

The second thing that I want to know.....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat. Let the Minister answer your first question.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : You have stated that a comprehensive programme is being formulated in the Seventh Five Year Plan. I want to know the outlines thereof ?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : There is no doubt that diabetes is a disease and it endangers the life of a person. It is of two types. One is insulin-dependent-diabetes and the other is non-insulin-dependent-diabetes. The first type is generally prevalent among the lower age group and the other type afflicts the persons of above 40 years of age. So far as the question of its prevention is concerned, we do not want that there should not be any protection against it. But, for the present, we are paying more attention towards communicable diseases because these are on the increase in our country. Non-communicable diseases and the diseases of this type come to our country later. The problem with us is that we are facing the diseases of developing countries as well as those prevalent in developed countries. Therefore, earlier our emphasis was on curative side but now we are laying emphasis on preventive side as well. I have already told about its preventive measures which usually consist of regulated diet, exercise and a regulated life. These are the preventive measures.

With regard to your second question, I want to tell that Rs. 25 lakhs have been allocated for this purpose in the Seventh Five Year Plan. (Interruptions) This disease does not make any distinction between the rich and the poor. This disease afflicts the poor due to malnutrition. The biggest difficulty which we are facing is that due to higher rate of illiteracy, the people do not have awareness and that is why we are laying more emphasis on health education programme.

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such type of insulin has been developed which if taken once a year relieves the patient of this trouble ? I want to know whether she has any information about it; and if so whether she proposes to import it ?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : It depends on the type and degree of the disease and what type of injection is needed for that. There can be no relief to the patient suffering from insulin-dependent diabetes without insulin injection. Now I have seen that diabetics keep a disposable syringe and they themselves take injection on time and protect themselves against it.

The second method does not necessarily require insulin injection; the patients can do without it also. It can be controlled through regulated diet.

[English]

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Is the hon. Minister aware that detailed research is going on in the western countries in respect of transplantation of pancreas gland in human beings—the gland which produces insulin in the body? If so, is any similar research going on in this country and the findings thereof?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Sir, many researches are going on in our country. I can give the picture of our Seventh Five Year Plan allocation.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Is any research going on?

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Research is going on in many other areas but not for this particular thing. Indian Council of Medical Research is doing something in this area.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether she is aware that drugs meant to cure diabetes purchased by her department for supply in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries are spurious and the same drugs are issued to the Members of Parliament and other patients and if someone raises objection, they say that they do

not have tablets other than these? Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a lot of bungling (*Interruptions*) in the purchase of different lots of tablets supplied by the dispensaries whether they are being run for the Members of Parliament or for other beneficiaries. The people are facing a lot of trouble because the medicines that are being issued are spurious ones. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : There is no such complaint in my knowledge that sub-standard drugs are being issued. I shall get it inquired if Vyasji gives me a specific case. Nevertheless, I do not at all agree that sub-standard drugs are being distributed in all dispensaries at all places. I do not agree with it at all.

[English]

Food for Learning Scheme of Andhra Pradesh

*642. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sent "Food for Learning" Scheme to Union Government for forwarding it to the World Bank for assistance;

(b) the number of children who will be benefited from this scheme and the expenditure involved in the implementation of the scheme; and

(c) the reaction of World Bank towards the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c) No proposal for assistance from the World Bank was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

I am sorry there is a serious mistake in the question. I would request the hon.