

(a) whether the report of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases has identified Bangalore as "Foci" for intensified plague surveillance after the outbreak of the dreaded disease called black death;

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to prevent the outbreak of plague in Bangalore;

(c) whether the Government have released special funds to Karnataka to implement the plague control measures; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Plague Surveillance Unit of national Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Bangalore in collaboration with Central Plague Laboratory, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi, and in coordination with State Health Departments is conducting redent survey regularly and is maintaining a sero-surveillance to identify incidence of *Y. Pestis* infection in three States—Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka for the last 16 years.

Appropriate plague control measures such as anti-rodent and flea control measures, intensified surveillance and health education to community are being undertaken by the State Government to prevent any outbreak of plague.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 25 lakhs was released to Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore for upgradation of laboratory facilities.

Use of Monosodium Glutamate in Food Stuffs

4820. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that 3% of Monosodium Glutamate was found in the chemical examination by the Health department of Karnataka in a sample of Kentucky Fried Chicken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that only 1% of Monosodium Glutamate is permissible in food stuffs under relevant Indian laws;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against the Kentucky company for such violation;

(e) whether his Ministry has also taken any such samples for examination; and

(f) if so, the findings thereof, and the action taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) It has been reported by the local Health Officers of the State Govt. that a sample of fried chicken drawn by the Bangalore Mahanagar Palika from M/s Kentucky Fned Chicken, Bangalore was found on analysis to contain 2.8% of Monosodium Glutamate

(c) As per the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, Monosodium Glutamate may be added provided the total Glutamate content to ready-to-serve food does into exceed 1%. However, it shall not be added to any food to be used by the infants below twelve months.

(d) Charge sheet has been filed against the firm under the provision of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 by the concerned State authorities.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Fund to Universities for Purchase of Books/Journals

4821. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission has been providing funds to different universities for purchase of books and essential journals; and

(b) if so, the details of requests received, and the funds released during the last two years, University-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Evaluation of CBSE Papers

4822. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been widespread complaints about erroneous evaluation of CBSE examination papers, particularly "Class X Social Science" and "Class XII Business Studies" in March, 1996 Examination;

(b) whether the CBSE has conducted any inquiry/re-checking/re-evaluation in this respect; and