

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to make the maintenance of these hospitals properly to avoid any hazard to the general public visiting in these hospitals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) Safdarjung Hospital has some structures that were constructed around 1942 and majority of the structures of Lady Hardinge Medical College and its Associate Hospitals were constructed in 1916. The maintenance of the buildings of Central Government Hospitals, namely Safdarjung Hospitals & Lady Hardinge Medical College and its associate Sucheta Kriplani Hospitals in Delhi is done by C.P.W.D. Proper maintenance of these Hospitals is impaired because of increased patient load.

(d) The Civil and Electrical works or the proper maintenance of buildings as well as for the upgradation of existing facilities are carried out by the C.P.W.D. periodically.

Pre-Independence Structures are to be demolished after construction of alternate building as the Left and Right Wing of OPD at Safdarjung Hospital has been sanctioned. Separate building for the National Institute of Orthopaedic is being planned in S.J. Hospital Campus.

New Accident and Emergency Block in LHMC & SSKH is under consideration.

Some existing sewers are being replaced by bigger ones where feasible without dislocating the service.

The maintenance of the building of the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Hospital is the responsibility of the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Import of Tainted Blood from Australia

1099. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Australian Company Limited had exported tainted blood to Delhi and other cities of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for such imports;

(c) whether the Government are aware about the facts;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to stop the import of tainted blood in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (f) There is no information about any Australian Company exporting tainted blood to any Indian Cities. However, as per newspaper reports, an Austrian Co. had been reported to have exported tainted blood products to India. It is a fact that M/s Panacea Biotec, New Delhi had imported human albumin 20% injection manufactured, by M/s. Albovina Gmbh Austria during the years 1994-96.

Samples from each consignment of blood products being imported into the country are tested to ensure that these are free from HIV 1&2, HBsAg and HCV Viruses. No consignment of blood products is released by the Port Officers without testing for the above Viruses. All the Port Officers have been instructed by the Drug Controller (India) to ensure that each consignment of blood products is accompanied by protocols of testing and manufacturing as well as Batch Release Certificate.

Supply of Gas in Saurashtra Region

1100. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved the land fall point near Pipavav in Saurashtra Region of Gujarat for supply of gas from Tapti Gas Field;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the gas supply is likely to be started at Pipavav ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Oil Reserves

1101. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted surveys to assess the quantity of oil reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of places where such surveys are being conducted during the current year ?