

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4916
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LEPROSY PATIENTS
Murmu Shri Hemlal

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

- (a) whether the President of Nippon Foundation and the representative of the World Health Organisation in Leprosy Eradication programme met the Prime Minister of India in connection with the Leprosy Eradication Programme in India and requested him that discrimination against the leprosy patients is required to be removed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said representative of leprosy eradication said that the State Governments and other NGOs need to prepare a special scheme for urban areas and pay attention to its implementation;
- (d) whether there is shortage of medical officers in about 632 dispensaries in Bihar, Chhattisgarh ,Jharkhand and Orissa and keeping it in view the Government proposes to make treatment available to the leprosy patients through weekly clinics there for two years ; and
- (e) if so, the reactions of the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): The requisite information is being collected.

(d) and (e): There is a shortage of Medical Officers in some of the Health Centres in the States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand. To tide over this situation, once a week Leprosy Clinic is held at these Centres through a visiting Leprosy Assistant to provide leprosy diagnosis and treatment facilities with WHO support.