

*[English]***Illegal Sale of Liquor**

4068. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether illegal sale of liquor in the capital has risen high;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested along with the liquor seized from them; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal sale of liquor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of cases registered in connection with the alleged illicit sale of liquor during the first six months of the current year was 2074 as against 3437 during the corresponding period of the preceding year. Similarly, the number of persons arrested during the same period was 2042 as compared to 3709 during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

(c) Delhi Police have taken the following measures to check sale of illicit liquor in the National Capital Territory:

- (i) The intelligence gathering mechanism has been strengthened;
- (ii) The patrolling around the Jhuggi clusters and in the border areas has been intensified;
- (iii) A Surveillance is kept over godowns of transports/public carriers suspected to be indulging in the smuggling of liquor;
- (iv) A watch is maintained over "bad" characters suspected to be indulging in sale of illicit liquor; and
- (v) The staff posted at the Police Stations has been instructed to develop their sources to effectively tackle the problem of sale of illicit liquor.

*[Translation]***Expenditure on Medicines**

4069. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita amount spent on providing medicines in Bihar especially in the rural areas of Jharkhand by the Union Government;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase its limit;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the likely expenditure to be borne by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

*[English]***Rural Hospitals in Tamil Nadu**

4070. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural hospitals working in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the main criteria for upgrading rural hospital from the Primary Health Centres;

(c) whether most of Primary Health sub-Centres opened are not properly functioning due to lack of staff; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) As per available information as on 31.12. 97, there are 2 Community Health Centres (30 bedded hospitals) functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres are distinct from each other, and have different functions. Even when a Primary Health Centre is expanded and upgrades into a Community Health Centre, a certain number of Primary Health Centre would be needed for looking after the essential Public Health needs of the smaller population segments, within the larger area covered by the Community Health Centre.

Both Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres are set up on the basis of population norms as follows :

	Population	
	Plain area	Hilly/Tribal area
PHC	30,000	20,000
CHC	1,20,000	80,000

(c) and (d) Government is aware that some of the Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres are under staffed on account of vacancies, absenteeism, etc. The recruitment and posting of staff in Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres are the responsibility of the State Govts.