

(a) whether government are aware that International Planned Parenthood Federation has pointed out India's large percentage of maternal mortality;

(b) if so, the causes of high percentage of maternal mortality; and

(c) the measures Government had taken to reduce maternal mortality?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The maternal mortality rate in the country is estimated to be 4 to 5 per thousand live births.

(b) The causes of high percentage of maternal mortality are Anaemia, Bleeding due to pregnancy and Puerperium, Toxemia of pregnancy, Puerperal Sepsis, Abortion etc.

(c) To reduce maternal mortality, Government have taken steps to implement a package of action as part of the State sector plan and as Centrally sponsored schemes for expansion of health network, training of health workers, traditional birth attendants, supply of delivery kits etc. The services provided are care of the women during pregnancy, during delivery and postnatal period. The expansion of post-partum scheme under family welfare programme and intensification of schemes for immunisation, prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and supplementary nutrition under ICDS are some of the other steps taken by the Government to reduce maternal mortality rates.

Report of Study Team Regarding Indian Workers In Gulf Countries

8950. **SHRI T. BASHEER:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received

the report submitted by the team which visited the Gulf Countries to study the problems of Indian workers there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation made various recommendations relating to simplification of procedures, deployment of agricultural labour, fixing of wages etc.

(c) The recommendations are under the consideration of Government.

Prices of Polyester Staple Fibre/Yarn

8951. **SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of polyester blended yarns for the last one year;

(b) the justification for increase in the prices;

(c) whether polyester staple fibre (PSF) prices have recently gone down while prices of blended yarns have increased; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to bring down the prices of blended yarns?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Quarterly prices of polyester blended yarns for the last one year are as given below:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Polyester/Viscose blended yam (average for certain blends)</i>	<i>Polyester/Cotton blended yam (polyester 65% and cotton 35%)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
March, 1989	76.29	103.00
June, 1989	90.94	108.56
Sept. 1989	100.77	123.67
Dec., 1989	99.67	117.56
March, 1990	110.05	125.44
May, 1990	109.28	120.56

(b) Forces of demand and supply determine the prices.

(c) Polyester Staple Fibre Prices decreased by 17.41% from December, 1989 to March, 1990 while polyester blended yarns prices increased by 10.4% in the case of Polyester/Viscose blended yarn and 6.7% in the case of Polyester/Cotton blended yarn during the same period. However since March, 1990 upto 5th May, 1990, the prices of Polyester blended yarns have declined slightly. Presently the price of polyester blended cotton yarn is lower than what it was in September 1989.

(d) Government have not imposed any administrative control over yarn prices but the situation remains under watch.

[Translation]

Implementation of Employment Oriented Scheme

8952. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has pre-

pared any scheme to provide assistance in the implementation of employment oriented schemes in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Problems of Leprosy Patients

8953. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted to look into the problems of leprosy patients;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee;