

**Family Planning Centres in Kerala**

\*723. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family planning centres established in the Kerala State so far;

(b) the allotment given by the Central Government to the Kerala State for the purpose of propagating family planning; and

(c) in view of the comparatively higher rate of growth of population in the Kerala State, what additional steps the Government propose to take to meet the situation?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) to (c). I place a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix, III, annexure No. 18.]

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** In view of the fact that this small number of family planning clinics are not patronised by the women folk of the villages, do Government consider taking this assistance to their homes?

**Shri Karmarkar:** It is not a question of taking assistance to their homes. There are various clinics and they are there to cater for the respective populations where they have been established. Those of them that have been done by voluntary organisations are working well. We hope, in view of the assurance given by the Health Minister of Kerala last time, that the Government ones are also functioning. In case there is anything going wrong, I shall be grateful to the hon. Member for information so that I can take it up with the Kerala Government.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Is the hon. Minister aware that many of the family planning centres run by the Government are being run by the midwives without any medical supervision; and, if so, what proposal has the Government to rectify this situation as early as possible?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Our work is to give aid. I am not aware that proper medical personnel is not available to some States. I have not received any information where a State has started a family planning clinic without proper personnel. In any case, the scheme is that we give assistance on the condition that the proper personnel will be appointed. If there are any cases, I shall be grateful to hon. Members if they bring them to my notice so that I shall go into them.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Is the Government aware that the centres that are being run in Delhi fall under that category and do not have adequate medical personnel and supervision and also of the fact that even doctors need special training to run these centres effectively? In view of that fact how far is it right to have these centres run by these midwives?

**Shri Karmarkar:** With regard to centres being run by the Delhi Administration, I shall check up before replying. Regarding centres that are being run under the CHS, my hon. friend's information is entirely wrong.

**Shri Dasappa:** The hon. Minister was pleased to say that these centres have been working very satisfactorily, in Kerala. May I know how long they have been in existence and whether the results of the working of these centres have been assessed and, if so, what they are?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I did not commit myself to the statement that all the centres are working entirely satisfactorily. At the best, I wish hon. Members do remember that this is a new scheme and we want their sympathies in the matter. In the first year, for instance, wherever our medical and social workers go, we do not except very sanguine results. It is a question of persuasion and regarding that we must have the sympathies of our hon. friends again. Assessments have necessarily to come at least after 3 years. In Ludhiana where our experiment has been going on for a longer period, our results

show that first the people took to it enthusiastically and then there was a lower curve and people left it off and then now about on-third of the population have taken it up and we have had it for three years. So far as the three years' results are concerned, we have it recorded that they have been successful to the extent of about 50 per cent. That is where it is.

In Ramanagaram in Bangalore, nearer my friend's home, there is also an experiment going on and I hope he will fully co-operate and see to it that good results are obtained and to a larger extent.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is confined to Kerala.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** There are only 5 urban and 24 rural clinics opened. In view of the alarming rate of multiplication of the population in the Kerala State.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Why all this preamble?

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** .... I want to know whether the Government will be pleased to open at least one clinics in one town in the Kerala State.

**Shri Karmarkar:** One for a town may be formidable. There is a definite programme about it. It is a phased programme and I wish the State Government takes full advantage and I am sure the hon. Member will surely co-operate in this scheme. I am not joking because in this.....

**Mr. Speaker:** In respect to these matters let us not enlarge the scope of the question or of the answer.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I would like to make a special appeal to the hon. Members of this House. This is a rather difficult problem and we want their co-operation in the matter.

### Agriculture Ministers' Conference, Srinagar.

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 { Shri Sanganna:  
 Shri B. S. Murthy:  
 Shri Surendranath  
 \*724. { Dwivedy:  
 Shri Hem Raj:  
 Shri Daljit Singh:  
 Kumari M. Vedakumari:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the recommendations made by the Agriculture Ministers' Conference in Srinagar on the 13th October, 1957 and accepted by the Government of India; and

(b) the steps taken to implement them?

**The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 19.]

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know whether the recommendations of the Asoka Mehta Committee have any effect on the decision taken by the Government of India on the recommendations made by the State Agriculture Ministers' Conference; and, if so, in what way?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** In fact, some of the recommendations of the State Agriculture Ministers' Conference deal with the minor irrigation question. The Asoka Mehta Committee also endorsed the same recommendations. We are taking action. We have already given one crore of rupees—additional fund—for minor irrigation this year. Rs. 1½ crores more is to be given to the drought-affected States on the recommendations of the committee which has gone round there.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** As importance has been laid on fertilisers in this Conference may I know whether there is any proposal to start a