

THE  
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 28th April, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past  
Eight of the Clock.

[SHRI PATASKAR in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

\*1651. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply to starred Question No. 185 asked on the 11th November, 1952 and state whether any special investigation has been made in India regarding the possibility of the spread of Tuberculosis from cattle to human beings, especially children?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** Investigations have been made in India on the possibility of the spread of Tuberculosis from cattle to human beings and the results obtained reveal that the incidence of bovine tuberculosis in human beings is nil for all practical purposes.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether any thorough investigation has been made into the incidence of udder tuberculosis and the possibility of children contacting scorfula and such other diseases on account of that?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** There is a small percentage of bovine tuberculosis, but there is practically no udder tuberculosis in cattle.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know under whose direction this research work was done?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The work was conducted under the direction of the Indian Medical Research Council. Dr. Soparkar carried out extensive experiments from 1924 to 1930, and the conclusions were arrived at.

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**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether after 1930 any effort has been made to see whether there is likelihood of cattle tuberculosis infecting man also?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** There was no need. So, no experiments were conducted.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether there is very strong opinion among medical specialists elsewhere that there is great possibility of bovine tuberculosis attacking children?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** No, Sir.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know the causes for bovine tuberculosis?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrta Kaur):** May I say that conditions in India differ and the general opinion among the medical profession is that because in India we all boil our milk, it may be that that acts as a tremendous preventive against bovine tuberculosis.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** There have been too many questions on bovine tuberculosis. The other questions may not be reached.

NURSES

\*1652. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the estimated number of Public Health and other nurses required in India?

(b) What are the efforts so far made and now proposed to be made to get the required number of trained nurses?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) On the basis of the recommendation of the Health Survey and Development Committee viz., provision of one nurse to 500 of the population, about 7,00,000 Public Health and other nurses are required in India.

(b) This is primarily for the State Governments. A statement containing

the information available is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 28.]

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, by what time Government propose to have the adequate number of nurses as estimated by them now?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I do not think it is possible to give the time limit.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What is the present ratio of qualified nurses to the population and to qualified doctors?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I require notice.

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** May I reply? There is one nurse to about 30,000 of the population. That is the latest. Previously there was one nurse to 43,000 of the population.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** To doctors?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** We have about one doctor to between six and seven thousand of the population.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know whether any nurses are being trained in any institution under the Central Government's control? If so, how many per year?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Under the Central Government there is only the College of Nursing. Otherwise, all the nurses are trained in the States in various hospitals.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** How many are being trained in this College of Nursing every year?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I think we are able to take in the neighbourhood of a hundred.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know, Sir, if some of the States have taken women criminals as nurses, and if so, is it creating some adverse effect on the morale of the nurses?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** A news item appeared in the press to that effect, and I contacted the Chief Minister of the State concerned. He has assured me that nobody who has been convicted of a non-bailable offence will be trained, but in the case of those who have come into prison under adverse circumstances or as victims of circumstances, it may be part of a measure for rehabilitation for that type.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know the lowest pay-scale that is given to the whole-time nurses, and is it conceded that it is necessary to increase the pay-scale for the existence of the nurses?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** If the hon. Member means that the pay-scale of the nurses is too low, I am in entire agreement with her, and I am fighting for them with the State Governments all the time.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What is the minimum qualification prescribed for the entrants to the Delhi College of Nursing?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** We take them in at the Matriculation stage, but we prefer to have Intermediate (Science).

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether there are any definite proposals to increase the present salary of the nurses?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** The States are autonomous in the matter of salaries of nurses. I can only ask them and advise them, and I am glad to say that many of them have increased the salaries.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What proportion of the total number of nurses is filled by male nurses?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I could not give the actual proportion of male nurses to female nurses.

#### CULTIVATION OF COFFEE AND RUBBER TREES IN ANDAMANS

\*1654. **Shri S. C/ Samants:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coffee and rubber trees grow in some of the Andaman forests;

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate to plant those trees there; and

(c) the amount of coffee and rubber collected from those forests during the years 1950-51 and 1952-53?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes; to a limited extent in artificially raised plantations.

(b) Government have already small scale plantations of rubber and coffee in Andamans and the question of large scale cultivation is under consideration.

(c) The quantity of coffee and rubber collected during the years 1950-51 to 1952-53 is as under:—

Year	Coffee	Rubber
	Lbs.	Lbs.
1950-51	Nil	17,389
1951-52	2,583	30,892
1952-53	574	70,700