

Shri Raj Bahadur: We hope, so. We want to get independent connections with as many countries as possible.

HOMOEOPATHIC ENQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

*1257. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the opinions of the Medical Council of India on the recommendations of the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee have been received?

(b) If so, what are they?

(c) When will the decision of the Government of India on the Homoeopathic system of medicine be taken?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) The Medical Council of India are of the opinion that there should be only one system of medicine in India, namely the modern system of medicine with a minimum uniform standard as prescribed by the Council. In view of the fundamental differences between the theory and practice of modern medicine and those of the indigenous systems of medicine and Homoeopathy, it will be most unsatisfactory, in the opinion of the Council, to arrange for a simultaneous teaching of modern medicine and of any other system of medicine during the undergraduate courses of training in modern medicine as recommended by the Third Health Ministers' Conference. The Council has further expressed the view that the study of the indigenous systems of medicine and Homoeopathy should be promoted only as post-graduate courses of training after the intending practitioner has obtained a basic qualification in modern medicine as is the case in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the Continent of Europe.

(c) In view of the fact that the views of the Medical Council of India in this matter differ from the recommendations of the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee as well as the recommendations of the Third Health Ministers' Conference, the matter will be further examined in consultation with the State Governments.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, what was the reason for inviting the opinion of the Indian Medical Council separately when other institutions were examined by the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Sir, the hon. Member should be aware that the Indian Medical Council is a statutory

body and has to be consulted where matters of medical education are concerned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, how many representations have been received by the hon. Minister by this time from homoeopathic and other public institutions regarding the opinion of the Medical Council of India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No other institutions have sent me any representations but I have received representations from a certain number of organisations representing homoeopathy. Some are in agreement with the recommendation of the Indian Medical Council and others are not. And I would like here to emphasise that the homoeopaths amongst themselves are not in full accord.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how the Ministry has progressed to implement the suggestions of the Health Ministers' Conference in regard to the establishment of a Central Homoeopathic Research Institute?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Health Ministry did not wish to take any action until it had received the opinion of the Medical Council.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Sir, I did not hear the hon. Minister's statement. May I know, Sir, if homoeopathic and Ayurvedic systems are to be taught at the under-graduate stage or post-graduate stage? What is the recommendation of the Medical Council in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: It should not be taught at the under-graduate stage but it should be taken at the post-graduate stage.

Pandit Lingaraj Misra: Has the hon. Minister received any draft Bills on Homoeopathy from any of the States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, Sir. Some of the States did send Bills to us for purposes of registration of homoeopaths.

Mr. Speaker: I am now going to the next question.

ANTI-LOCUST OPERATIONS (CONFERENCE)

*1258. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the subjects considered in a conference of State plant protection officers and administrative officers in charge of anti-locust operations, held recently in New Delhi?