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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE
Wednesday, 28th May, 1952.

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Nityanand Kanungo (Kendra-
para).

Shri Raj Bahadur (Jaipur-Sawai
Madhopur).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FAMILY PLANNING SCHEME

*227. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the
Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the
Family Planning Scheme started by
the Government of India; and

(b) the number of experts working
in the field?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari
Amrit Kaur):** (a) Government have
sanctioned the establishment of three
centres: one in the Lady Hardinge
Medical College, New Delhi; one in
the Lodi Colony, New Delhi and the
third at the Ramanagaram Health Unit
in the Mysore State for conducting
pilot studies on the use of the 'rhythm
method' of family planning.

(b) Two women workers from
America have just arrived in the first
instance for a period of one year. The
United Nations Population Division
has also offered the services of a Demo-
grapher to assist Dr. C. Chandra-
sekhar, Director of the U.N. Office of
Population Studies who is in charge of
the Ramanagaram Centre.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether
any other method excepting the
one that was mentioned here had been
recommended by some experts from
England?

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Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There are
other methods, of course; but no sug-
gestions have been made to me.

Janab Amjad Ali: Can the hon.
Minister tell us what are the chief
features of this family planning? Does
it include birth control?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Population
planning, that is, spacing of families
and limiting families, naturally comes
under the term "birth control".

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Will the hon.
Minister be pleased to state whether
there are any birth control clinics run
by Government anywhere in India, and
if so, what is their number?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There are
none.

Shrimati A. Kale: Is the Govern-
ment aware that this particular rhythm
method has been declared unsuitable
by Dr. Marie Stopes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are
going into opinions.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether
it is a fact that the Family
Planning Committee of the W.H.O.
came to the decision that this parti-
cular item should be dropped from the
agenda, and if so, may I know whether
the Government of India also proposes
to drop this item?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir.

Shri Nambiar: May I know to what
extent the American experts can
advise us about Indian family planning?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Well, Sir,
experience anywhere can be utilised
in any country, according to local
conditions.

HELP TO FAMINE AREAS IN
ANDHRA DESA

*228. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the
Minister of Food and Agriculture be
pleased to state:

(a) the extent of Government of
India's help to the famine areas of
Andhra Desa; and