

the Government rather than promoting any particular type of diet.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I have no supplementary.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in all the researches conducted by the scientists in regard to non-vegetarian diet, it has been proved that non-vegetarian food such as meat and fish cause heart attack, and many other diseases. In view of this, whether the Government will promote vegetarian diet through the concerned Ministry?

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: We have answered in the main question that the Government will not like to promote any particular type of diet.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: One should eat according to his liking.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: So far as non-vegetarian food is concerned, it has been noticed the number of non-vegetarians is increasing which leads to more killing of animal. This is not beneficial for anybody, So what steps the Government is going to take to stop this trend and to promote vegetarian diet?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that one should eat according to his liking.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.

SHANKARANAND): As it is, non-vegetarian food has become too costly that the poor man cannot afford the non-vegetarian diet. It is only the rich who seen non-vegetarian food, It is true that non-vegetarian food has its advantage and the vegetarian food also has the advantage and not the other.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the scientist have proved that vegetarian food is good for health. Regarding liquor and cigarettes, statutory warnings have been issued by the Government to the effect that there are injurious to health, but it has been noticed that whenever foreigners come to India on official tours etc. liquor as well as beef and pork are served to them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether steps would be taken to ensure that beef, pork, liquor and cigarettes are not served to the foreigners in view of the Indian culture.

[*English*]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: This is only a suggestion for action.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the meaning of vegetarian food? In several countries, chicken and fish are also considered as vegetarian food.

[*English*]

Medical Colleges

*148. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised and

unrecognised medical colleges in the country at present,

(b) the approximate number of graduate and post-graduate doctors passing out of these colleges annually, and

(c) the number of graduate and post-graduate doctors who migrate annually to other countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR)

(a) According to the Medical Council of India, there are 120 recognised and 26 unrecognised medical colleges in the country

(b) According to the available information approximately 13000-14000 graduates and 6000-7000 post graduates pass out annually

(c) As per information available with the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI), 5,887 Indian doctors are registered in various foreign countries upto 31.12.1991

DR K D JESWANI I would request the Minister to correct the figures. I have the report from the Health Ministry itself. There are 148 medical colleges in the country and there are still a number of medical colleges, more than 28 colleges, which are still not recognised by the Medical Council of India.

From the Sixth Five Year Plan onwards it has been the policy of the Government not to encourage expansion of medical education. One of the factors in consideration was that the medical education is highly subsidised.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many colleges are allowed to open after the Sixth Five year Plan. What is the fate of the students who are passing

through these unrecognised medical colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B SHANKARANAND) It is true that of late many unlicensed private medical colleges have come up. The problem is of granting permission to the medical colleges. State Governments so far were not bound to take permission of the Central Government. The House is aware that now we are going to introduce a comprehensive Bill regarding medical education but the Ordinance has been issued which is going to put a full stop for such activities of opening new medical colleges without the permission of the Central Government.

DR K D JESWANI What is the fate of those students who have come out of the colleges? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B SHANKARANAND I do appreciate the problems faced by the students who are already getting their education in the unlicensed medical colleges. I do appreciate the problem. But in view of the recent Supreme Court Judgement, I think we have to examine the implications of the Judgement and if possible whatever assistance that can be given to such students, can be considered.

SHRI K D JASWANT SINGH MY second question is in spite of some restriction put to check doctors going abroad, more than 5800 doctors have already migrated to foreign countries. This is a great brain drain and a national loss because on preparing one graduate doctor the nation has to spend not less than Rs. 2.5 lakhs and a postgraduate doctor means more than Rs. 5 lakhs. Is the Government thinking of enacting some law which would inhibit this brain drain?

SHRI B SHANKARANAND It is true that medical education is given to the stu-

dents at the cost of the nation. Whatever fees are charged by the Government medical colleges, that is far less than the actual cost of the education. Having got such education, people are going abroad and the ground realities are that doctors do not find any employment here in the country.. They cannot practice. They are asked to go to the rural areas.

Another point is, doctors going abroad to the developing countries at the moment is not prohibited. What the hon. Member is suggesting is that there should be a total ban on the doctors leaving this country.

This involves many considerations. Without giving proper consideration to these factors, we cannot think of bringing a Bill in this regard.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Medical education is also a State subject and in view of this, there is no uniform rules all over the country to control medical education. That is the main problem. In Kerala, there is no private medical college. Our children will go either to Karnataka or Andhra Pradesh or Tamil Nadu spending lakhs and lakhs of rупpes and they are facing many difficulties.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether a uniform rule will be made to control medical colleges and also, since large amount is required to start medical colleges, self financing colleges under the control of the Government, giving admission to majority of the students under the common Government quota shall be encouraged, so that students may not face unnecessary problem and medical education can be given to the lower strata of the society?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: In the recent judgement of the Supreme Court, a scheme has been suggested for regulating the admission of students to private medical

colleges. As I said, the Government is thinking of bringing a comprehensive Bill as per the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee of the Parliament. Such a Bill is to be introduced in the House as early as possible.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Unrecognised medical colleges have made the medical education a tool for the purpose of minting money. Most of them are politically-connected persons. So, I would like to know what action the Government proposes to take against those managements which have started unrecognised colleges. What does the Government want to do against them?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Now, there are two propositions before the House: One proposition is taking serious action against those colleges which have been conducting medical education courses to the students without any rights. On the other hand, a problem posed before us is: what about students who are already taking education in these colleges? I think we have to give weightage to both these aspects.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Nothing concrete is being said. He has avoided the reply.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Gas Processing Capacity

*142. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gas processing capacity in the country is inadequate to meet its demand;

(b) if so, the steps Government pro-