

Promotion of Solar Energy

*507. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and World Bank have entered into an agreement for promoting solar energy in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance likely to be given to India by the World Bank in this regard; and

(c) the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c). The Government of India entered into an agreement which came into effect from 6 April 1993 with the World Bank for providing financial assistance amounting to US \$ 115 million as International Development Association (IDA) credit for the implementation of India Renewable Resources Development Project (IRRDP) being implemented by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). The project also includes a grant of US \$ 26 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The IRRDP envisages providing soft loans through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) for renewable energy projects in three sectors, namely Wind, Small Hydro, and Solar Photovoltaic Systems. The Project also envisages technical assistance for institutional development of IREDA and promotion of renewable energy technologies. The funds are to be utilised during the period 1993 to 1999.

The IDA loan to Government of India envisages repayment over a period of 25 years commencing from 2003. The IDA loan is relented by the Government of India to IREDA under a subsidiary loan agreement with an interest rate of 12.5% and a moratorium for repayment of the loan.

Medical Education

*508. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce short-term medical education courses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to restructure the medical education in the country to make it more need based; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). A national level Workshop was conducted by Medical Council of India in August 1992

to review and revise the curriculum for Under graduate Medical Education and make it more need-based. The MCI has proposed a revised curriculum with emphasis on community needs, so that the medical student learns the requisite skills to become a community oriented doctor. The internship programme has also been revised with the same orientation. The revised curriculum prepared by Medical Council of India was forwarded to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for approval. The revised curriculum has been considered in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in consultation with Directorate General of Health Services and the document has been returned to Medical Council of India with certain observations and they have been asked to prepare it in a regulation form and resubmit the document to Government of India for approval.

[Translation]

Photo Identity Cards

*509. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Photo Identity Cards have been issued to all voters in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Union Government have issued directions to the State Governments to complete the work before commencing the next general election; and

(d) the time by which the Photo Identity Cards are likely to be made available to all voters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. The Election Commission has, however, indicated that it will insist on completion of issue of identity cards work before the next general elections to Lok Sabha.

Ayurvedic Medicines

*510. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed ban on some Ayurvedic medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such medicines;

(c) the reasons for imposing ban on these medicines;