

of the State Government in February and again in March, 1997.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

#### Review of Infrastructure

112. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the infrastructure facilities to be given to those who are involved in the privatisation of essential services in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the spheres in which such reviews are to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR): (a) and (b) The review of various infrastructure sectors/facilities is a continuous process. Considering the huge demand for infrastructure facilities and constraint of resources Government will only be able to provide a part of total requirement. It is, therefore, necessary to involve private sector in provision of infrastructure facilities. However, the scope of private sector participation depends upon the characteristics of individual infrastructure sector. There are certain infrastructure sectors where the gestation period is long and immediate pay back cannot be expected. In such sectors the bulk of investment has to be made by public sector. Various Ministries from time to time formulate policies with regard to augmentation/improvement of infrastructure facilities such as power, telecommunication, transport etc. either through public action of private sector participation.

#### De-Recognition of Patel Chest Institute

113. SHRI P. NAMGYAL:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India (MCI) has recommended de-recognition of the courses at the Patel Chest Institute, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received several complaints from the doctors of the said institute regarding functioning of the institute;

(d) if so, the details of the complaints made by the doctors and the steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning of the institute;

(e) whether half of the Faculty Members including

the Director are from the non-clinical cadre;

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to remove all the non-clinical staff from the faculty rather than de-recognition of the institution; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Medical Council of India has recommended de-recognition of post-graduate courses of V.P. Chest Institute, Delhi under Delhi University on the ground that a large number of faculty members are non-medical persons. The recommendations of the Medical Council of India are being considered.

(c) and (d) No complaints have been received from the Doctors of the institute regarding functioning of V.P. Chest Institute. However, a letter was received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed by three honourable M.Ps. in which suggestions were made for appointment of a medical person as Director of the Institute; ensuring proper use of the existing equipment and available beds and conducting an enquiry for better utilisation of the institute. A committee constituted by the Ministry of Health & FW has given various suggestions for improving its clinical and laboratory facilities which has been brought to the notice of Delhi University and the Deptt. of Education.

(e) As per M.C.I. Inspection Report of November, 1995, some of the faculty including Director of the Institute belong to non-clinical cadre.

(f) and (g) The M.C.I. recommendation for de-recognition of Postgraduate degree and diploma courses at V.P. Chest Institute is under consideration.

[Translation]

#### Survey of Child Labour

114. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any survey to assess the existing child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the number of child labourers reported to have been working in the country during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 till date, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken for their rehabilitation;

(d) whether the number of child labourers is likely to be trippled by the year 2000 as per the recent assesment made by the Planning Commission; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (b) Authentic information on child labour is generated during

the decennial census. As per the 1991 census, the total number of working children in the country is 11.28 million. The Supreme Court in their judgement dated 10.12.96 has also given a number of directions including conducting a survey on working children. The first phase of the survey has already been completed.

(c) Government have taken a number of steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of Child Labour working in hazardous occupations. A major programme was announced in August 1994 for the rehabilitation of around 2 million children working in hazardous occupations. So far 76 Child Labour Projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations. As per the available information, around 1.05 lakh children are already enrolled in the special schools set up under the projects. Apart from this, steps have also been taken for implementing the directions of the Supreme Court of withdrawal and rehabilitation of working children.

(d) and (e) Planning Commission has not made any assessment recently regarding the magnitude of child labour by the year 2000. The Government however, is committed to a policy of progressive elimination of child labour in all its forms.

[English]

#### Elimination of Child Labour

115. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a Rs. 800 crore project to eliminate child labour from hazardous occupations by the end of the century;

(b) if so, the main features of the project; and

(c) the steps Government propose to taken to implement the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) A major programme was announced by Government on 15th August, 1994 to rehabilitate child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the project, an estimated 2 million children working in hazardous occupations were proposed to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated by putting them in schools with provisions for non formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition, etc. It was estimated that an amount of Rs. 850 crore would be required for the purpose. So far 76 Child Labour Projects have been sanctioned for the rehabilitation of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations.

While the Government was still considering extension of the programme to other districts, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgement 10.12.96 issued several directions regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations are to be withdrawn and rehabilitated as also the manner in which the working conditions of children working in non hazardous occupations are to

be improved and regulated. The State Governments have already taken steps for implementation of the judgement of Supreme Court.

#### Encroachment

116. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "encroaching and illegal constructions: Jha panel indicates BJP MLA, Congman" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated April 3, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item states that the Madan Jha Committee, which Constituted by the Lt. Governor, has alleged involvement of a Member of Delhi Legislative Assembly and a Local Leader in the encroachment on the Public land and unauthorised construction. The Committee has submitted its report to the Lt. Governor. The report further alleges that no follow-up action has been taken on the recommendations of the Committee.

(c) Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that they are seized of the matter relating to the follow-up action on the report of the Jha Committee.

#### Closure of Homoeopathy College

117. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Council of Homoeopathy has ordered the closure of the Government college of Homoeopathy in Bangalore and also to stop fresh admissions from the coming academic year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Union Government to allow re-opening of the above college and to make fresh admissions; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH) on its inspection of the Government College of Homoeopathy, Bangalore found that the College did not meet the minimum required norms and standards prescribed by it. The Council had stopped further admissions of students to the college. However, keeping in mind the efforts made by the State Government for rectifying the deficiencies pointed out by CCH during their inspection, the