

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

### Yoga Exercises

**339. Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to promote Yoga exercises and cures during the last five years;

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken during the next five years; and

(c) whether a statement giving the details would be placed on the Table?

**The Minister of Education (Dr K. L. Shrimali):** (a) The following steps have *inter-alia* been taken for the promotion of Yoga during the last 5 years (1957-58 to 1961-62):—

- (i) Grants amounting to Rs. 5,63,047] sanctioned for the promotion of research & popularisation of Yogic exercises including training of Yogic teachers;
- (ii) Selected Yogic Exercises included in the 'Model' Syllabi of Physical Education for Boys & Girls recommended in the 'National Plan of Physical Education & Recreation';
- (iii) Yoga has been included as one of the subjects for specialisation in the 3 year Degree Course at the Lakshmbai College of Physical Education, (Gwalior);
- (iv) Three Scholarships to Physical Education Teachers for specialisation in Yogic practices have been awarded; and
- (v) A Committee of Medical Experts to study and evaluate the therapeutic values of Yogic practices and to recommend

measures for development on scientific lines of the Institutions engaged in Yogic therapy was set up. The report of the Committee is under examination.

(b) and (c). During the next 5 years the programme detailed in para 2 above will be carried further. In addition, the recommendations made by the Committee of medical experts are proposed to be implemented.

### Holiday on Janam Ashtmi

**340. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not followed the Rashtriya Panchang in declaring 23rd August as holiday for Janam Ashtmi in 1962;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that at variance with the Central Government the State Governments like that of West Bengal and Punjab have declared 22nd August as the Janam Ashtmi holiday following the Rashtriya Panchang?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) and (b). The normal practice is to observe holidays on the dates as given in the Indian Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac for the relevant year. However, when the dates given in the Almanac differ from those on which the festivals are actually observed by the people in a particular place, Government of India offices are closed on that day. Since it is understood that Janam Ashtmi will actually be celebrated in Delhi on the 23rd August, 1962, a holiday has been declared on that day.

(c) The State Governments also observe holidays on the days on which religious festivals are actually celebrated in the State. It is open to the