

SHRI J. B. PATNAIK: It is very difficult to give the time-limit. I can give you an assurance... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: This disease is very contagious. After all, this has become the order of the day whether it is your party or that party. I feel that you consider as if the Minister is standing in the dock; as if the Minister has come as a witness and you are cross-examining him.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Whether it is a fact that this matter has been taken up with the Centre by the Kerala Government several years ago and whether it is also a fact that the Kerala Government has repeatedly requested the Government to take action? If these are the facts, why this delay in taking a decision in spite of the fact that alternative site has been pointed out? Is it not true that the only objection that the Government has raised in regard to this site was lack of road facilities which the Government of India could have built?

SHRI J. B. PATNAIK: The request was not made several years ago, it was made only three years ago. The site that was referred to had been surveyed and the proposal examined. And as I have already pointed out, that was not an adequate piece of land. We require more land for the purpose of this Range. Because of a steep gradient, this land was not accessible. Regarding the second point, we have been searching for an alternative site. As long as we do not get an alternative site suitable for this particular Range, we cannot shift the Range from this area.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question. Shri Ram Gopal Reddy.

SHRI TRIDIB KUMAR CHAUDHARI: Sir, on a point of order. The question asks for information about the countries of the world. Are we responsible for all the countries of the world?

MR. SPEAKER: I think they get information through the UNESCO, WHO etc.

Compulsory Family Planning

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*943. **SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:**

SHRI B. V. NAIK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the countries of the world which have as of date adopted or have under active consideration of the respective Government, compulsory family planning;

(b) their respective growth rates of population; and

(c) whether our Government have considered compulsory family planning as a workable option?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) The information in respect of other countries is not readily available.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal to make family planning compulsory.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: The Minister is a knowledgeable person. Even though he does not have the accurate figures, he can give the rough figures as to which of the countries observe family planning. While the growth of population in other countries is only 0.5 per cent, in our country it is 2.5 per cent. What are the effective steps which the Minister is taking to reduce the rate of growth to at least 0.5 per cent?

DR. KARAN SINGH: Our information is that at least 60 countries have official family planning programmes. The growth rate varies from country

to country. As far as we are concerned, our growth rate is 2.1 per cent. We are taking a large number of measures to bring down the growth rate. Our target is to reduce the birth rate to one per thousand per year for the next ten years. For that purpose we are adopting a number of measures like family planning services, research in reproduction biology, including integration of family planning with health and nutritional services so that they can be taken to the rural areas in this country more effectively than hitherto.

श्री एम० राम गोपाल रेड्डी मंत्री जी जो कह रहे हैं कि इकोनॉमिक्स स्टेप में रहे हैं तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ मजबूत बढ़ता गया ज्यू-ज्यू दबा की—यही किरसा है। डेव रेट कम हो रहा है तो बर्ष रेट भी उम्मी के हिसाब से कम होना चाहिए।

डा० कर्ण सिंह : डेव रेट भी कम हो रहा है और मुझे इन बात का विश्वास है कि राम गोपाल जी का महयोग रहेगा तो बर्ष रेट भी कम हो जायेगा।

SHRI S. B. GIRI: Even though we have adopted several schemes to bring down the population growth, the results have not been very encouraging. In view of that, will the Government of India initiate some legislation to ensure reduction in the population growth?

DR. KARAN SINGH: It would not be correct to say that the measures so far adopted have not been effective. Some States have done particularly well. Here I might mention the names of Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Haryana, who have done extremely well. They have succeeded in bringing down the birth rate. At present our policy is not to have any legislation for this purpose. We are trying to create public opinion so that we can get their voluntary and willing cooperation.

SHRIMATI M. GODFREY: I would like to know from the Minister whether he is aware that quite a large portion of the money allocated for family planning is being wasted. Is it not a fact that many of the villagers are forced to take to family planning schemes without proper education? Is it also not a fact that some of the family planning measures are injurious from the health point of view and proper precautionary measures are not taken in those cases?

DR. KARAN SINGH: It would not be correct to say that money is being wasted. It is true that in some cases we do get complaints that the money could have been better spent. I can assure the hon. Member and the House that we have taken very stringent measures to ensure that there is the optimum use of the resources available. I have been in touch with all the State Health Ministers. We just had a meeting about a month ago, and we have devised measures to ensure that whatever money is spent is spent to the maximum advantage and that there should be no cause for complaint.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Opening of C.G.H.S. Dispensaries in Janakpuri, Delhi

*937. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the medical facilities, namely Hospitals and Dispensaries provided by Government to three lakh residents of Janakpuri, Delhi;

(b) whether Government have considered the proposal to start C.G.H.S. dispensaries for the Government employees and their dependents residing at Janakpuri; and

(c) if so, when these dispensaries will start functioning and where these will be located?