

lying the proposed plan of the Government for rendering the health care services in the rural areas will be explained to the Indian Medical Association and efforts to seek their co-operation will be made by convincing them of the correctness of our plan.

(b) The community health worker (Jan Swasthya Rakshak), as his nomenclature indicates, will not be a doctor. He will be a worker selected by the community from within the community, who after training in the simple and basic health services, will render preventive, promotive and curative services at the level of the community itself. He will act as an agent of inter-action between the community and the professional health and medical services.

One of the proposals in the draft plan is to involve medical graduates in rural health services for 2 years on completion of the M.B.B.S. course. This period will provide them training and will expose them to field conditions obtaining in the rural areas and simultaneously make available their services for rural areas. This will be in line with what the Indian Medical Association wants in terms of making qualified doctors available in the rural areas.

Production of Marble and Granite

3506. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of marble and granite and names of places where these are mined broadly;

(b) whether Government have undertaken a survey to assess their export potential and names of countries to which marble and granite are being exported at present;

(c) whether Government propose to accept such mineral stones as an industry and provide loan to this sector for a boom in export; and

(d) number of indigenous units, mechanised and modernised, to process and polish these stones and whether Government propose to provide them technical know-how for foreign exchange earnings? .

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) The production of marble and granite in 1975 was 1,44,858 tonnes and 16,30,000 tonnes respectively. Marble is mainly produced in Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat. Granite production comes mainly from Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(b) A market survey for granite is being undertaken by Indian Bureau of Mines. At present marble is chiefly exported to Bangladesh and the Middle-East, whereas granite finds export market mainly in Japan and the United Kingdom. Small quantities are also being exported to a number of other countries including the U.S.A., Italy, Hongkong, the Federal Republic of Germany, the G.D.R. and Canada.

(c) There is no such proposal at present. Some State Financial Corporations and banks have sanctioned loans for this activity.

(d) Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have about 20 and 35 respectively mechanised units for granite. Rajasthan has about 275 mechanised units for marble. Some other States also have such units. No proposal for provision of technical know-how is under consideration.

Price Index and Real Wage

3507. SHRI CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price index formula is defective and it does not show upward trend with the increase in prices;