

to the G.E.L. Church and after this the Board was dissolved. The information regarding the approval of the Governor General in Council for transfer of the property was conveyed to the Mahasabha of Chief of Autonomous Churches, Ranchi, vide order No. 1166 (c) by the Chief Secretary of Bihar.

Capitation Fee Charged by Medical Colleges

5322. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of private medical colleges in the country are charging capitation fee;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that poor and meritorious students are unable to get admission in these medical colleges because of this reason; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to rectify this situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) As per the information made available by the Medical Council of India, 25 medical colleges in the country are either charging capitation fee or enhanced fee.

(b) and (c). Taking into account that poor and meritorious students are unable to get admission in some of the private medical colleges where capitation fee or higher tuition fee is being charged, the Government of India have already introduced a Bill to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, under which a provision is being made to prohibit the charging of capitation fees or any amount in excess of the scales of fee prescribed by the Medical Council of India. Penalty provisions have also been made for contravention of the relevant sections dealing with the

prohibition of capitation fee. As and when the Bill is enacted, it will be possible for the Government to rectify this situation.

[*Translation*]

Availability of Yarn at high Prices to Handloom/Powerloom Weavers in Nasik

5323. SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that handloom/powerloom weavers of Maharashtra especially in Bhalegaon, Nasik are buying yarn from the market at exorbitant prices;

(b) whether Government have received any representation in this regard;

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto;

(d) whether Government propose to open Government Depot in Nasik and Bhalegaon for the benefits of weavers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Government are aware that yarn prices have increased in Maharashtra as in other parts of the country.

(b) Representations have been received from the All Maharashtra Powerloom Bunkar Action Committee, Nagpur and Nasik District Powerloom Cooperative Societies/Cooperative Federation Ltd., Malagaon.

(c) to (f). The following corrective action has been taken to arrest the increasing trend