

(a) whether it has been reported that Indian Rare Earths in Kerala emits low dose radiation causing blood cell abnormalities;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report presented so far in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure safety of people residing in Kerala in the vicinity of Indian Rare Earths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). As per the information received from the Indian Council of Medical Research low dose radiation is suspected to be a factor of causation of leukemia. The studies by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) are indicative that the background radiation levels in the vicinity of Indian Rare Earths, Kerala are within the safe limits.

#### **Dearness Allowance for N.Y.S. Kendras' Employees**

2538. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Nehru Yuva Sangathan/ Kendras are treated at par with Central Govt. employees;

(b) if not, the details of pay, D.A. and other facilities/ benefits provided to them;

(c) whether the Govt. propose to grant them dearness allowance in proportionate to increase in price index as prevalent for Central Government employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). There are two catego-

ries of employees in the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. The first category is of direct recruit employees and deputationists from State Government employed in the Department before the formation of the Sangathan who continue to work in the Sangathan due to a pending Court case and are treated to be equivalent to Central Government employees. The second category are the ones who have been employed by the Sangathan after its formation and they are not treated at par with central Govt. employees. This category of employees are getting a consolidated pay plus House Rent Allowance @ 20% of their pay. Further, the employees who have completed their period of probation satisfactorily and rendered more than one year's service, as on 1.1.1990, have been given one increment. Similarly, those who have completed more than two years service, as on 1.1.1990, have been granted 2 increments. The Sangathan also provides for a Contributory Provident Fund Scheme to the employees who have been recruited after its formation.

(c) and (d). The Board of Governors recommended payment of Dearness Allowance at Central Government rates. The recommendation is being processed in consultation with the Department of Personnel and Department of Expenditure.

#### **Patients Welfare Society In Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital Delhi**

2539. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Welfare Society in aid of Patients has been functioning in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital;

(b) if so, the broad functions of the society; 2