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(d) and (e). The FCI is already taking action to fill up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe as filling up of reserved vacancies is a continuing process.

Medical Services under CPA

2463. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

SHRI CHIRANJIT LAL SHARMA :

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 296 dated November 28, 1995 re: bring Medical Services under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and state:

(a) the machinery the Government propose to set up to protect the rights of the people in this regard;

(b) whether the Government have taken note of the protest of the medical profession against this judgement and whether any memorandum have been received by the Government from the professional bodies in this regard;

(c) whether the medical profession has threatened to raise medical fees and charges on account of this judgement; and

(d) if so, the manner by which the Government propose to meet this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) Under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, 3 tier redressal agencies have been set up. At present, one National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission), 31 State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (State Commission) and 457 Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums) are functioning in the States/UTs. In addition one State Commission and two Divisional Forums are also functioning in the State of Jammu & Kashmir where they have enacted a separate Jammu & Kashmir Consumer Protection Act, 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Doctors and medical professional filed number of Writ Petitions in the High Courts challenging the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its recent Judgement have upheld the provisions of the Act.

(c) and (d) There has been some news item showing

apprehension of rise in the medical fees and charges as a result of the judgement. Government will take appropriate action as and when such situation arises.

School in Uttar Pradesh

2464. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Eastern Uttar Pradesh which do not have primary schools, middle schools, higher secondary schools; and

(b) by when schools would be opened in those villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the state Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

Preservation of Seeds

2465. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement one of its own kind "sui generis" system for preservation of seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The draft legislation for protection of plant varieties is under finalisation. This proposed legislation seeks to stimulate quality seed production and preserve the traditional rights of the farmers to save, use, exchange, share and sell seeds.

(c) Question does not arise.

*[Translation]***Production of Soyabean**

2466. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production of Soyabean likely to be achieved during 1995-96 as the Kharif crop of Soyabean for the current year has already arrived at threshing floor;

(b) the quantity of oil being extracted by crushing Soyabean every year and the annual consumption of this oil in the country;

(c) the quantum of soyabean oil being exported; and

(d) the quantum of oil-cake produced from the crop of Soyabean in the country alongwith quantum thereof