

number of qualified medical practitioners in the country and in light of the recommendations of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare not be allow opening of any new medical college in the country, the Government of India is not in favour of establishing of any new medical college in the country.

Supply of Hank Yarn at Reasonable Price

447. SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESWARI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to supply hank yarn to handloom weavers at reasonable price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial help is also being proposed to be given to the handloom weavers in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d). The Central Government have been making efforts to ensure the regular supply of yarn to the handloom weavers at reasonable prices through various measures such as (i) the Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme, (ii) Loan assistance to the National Cooperative Development Corporation for setting up of new Weavers' Cooperative Spinning Mills and expanding the capacity of the existing Weavers Cooperative Spinning Mills in various States in order to build up captive production for the handloom sector and (iii) setting up of the National Handloom Development Corporation with the primary objective of arranging supply of yarn to handloom sector at reasonable prices. In addition the State Governments have been asked to

formulate State level yarn price fixation committees and fix the prices of yarn produced by cooperative spinning mills at reasonable levels. Such Committees already exist in Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. A Hank Yarn Monitoring Committee has also been constituted to continuously monitor and review the position of availability as also the prices of hank yarn.

In the context of continued increase in the prices of yarn, Government had also introduced a Yarn Depot Scheme under the aegis of the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) to supply yarn to handloom weavers at mill-gate prices. Under the Scheme, one lakh bales of yarn costing Rs. 80 crores is expected to be supplied in a year. Government subsidises the operation of the NHDC to the extent of 5% of the value of yarn supplied to provide for part of the cost of transportation, interest on working capital and other overhead charges so as to enable it to sell yarn to the weavers at mill-gate prices. The NHDC has already supplied 30,928 bales of yarn during September '89—January '90 under this Scheme.

Scheme to update the Technology in Textiles Sector

448. SHRI DMARMESH PRASAD VARMA :
SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering any schemes to update the technology in the textile sector, especially in design and quality and diversification of production etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). The textile machinery industry has been included in the Technology Upgradation Scheme. In the decentralised powerloom sector there is a scheme to upgrade technology with regard to design, development and diversification of production.

Directive of Supreme Court to States to Provide Medical Seats

449. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA:
SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:

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

(a) whether Supreme Court has issued a directive to all the States/Union Territories regarding allotment of medical seats for Central quota;

(b) if so, the details of the directives issued by the Supreme Court; and

(c) to what extent these directives have been implemented by the States/Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY). (a) to (c). Yes. The Supreme Court had issued directives to the concerned States/UTs except Jammu and Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh for allotment of 15% MBBS/BDS and 25% Post-graduate Medical/Dental seats in each medical college or institution other than private colleges without taking into account any reservations. All the concerned States/UTs have fully implemented these directives and are contributing

the seats to the Central quota.

[*Translation*]

Thefts in FCI Godowns, Sitapur

450. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of thefts reported in the godowns of Food Corporation of India situated in Sitapur District of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) the action taken so far in regard to these thefts;

(c) whether Government propose to take any corrective steps to prevent thefts in the godowns; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a)

1988	—	89	—	Nil
1989	—	90	—	1

(b) An FIR has been lodged with the police. Departmental action against the defaulters has also been initiated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Existing security measures have been tightened by inducting more watchmen and increasing the frequency of checking during night.

Appointment of Public Health Visitors

451. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: