

**Deaths due to "Pneumokoniosis"
Disease**

4207. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the disease called "Pneumokoniosis"

(b) what are its causative factors; and

(c) what is the annual death rate among coal mines and refractory workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) & (b). 'Pneumoconiosis' refers to a lung disease caused by exposure for variable periods to dust particles in certain occupations like mines, foundaries, quarries etc.

(c) According to a study conducted in May, 1986 about 10 per cent of the workers in coal mines and refractories are afflicted with lung abnormalities including pneumokoniosis. The Ministry of Health has no information on the annual death rate among coal mines and refractory workers.

**Scarcity of Unani Medicines in
CGHS Dispensaries**

4208. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government Health Scheme beneficiaries under Unani system do not get the required medicines;

(b) whether it is a fact that even when a Hakim considers a particular medicine for a disease as a must, the same is not supplied by Government and local purchase is also barred; and

(c) whether it is the intention of Government that all should prefer Allopathy instead of Unani, Homoeopathy and Ayurvedic system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND

FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In case of non-availability of the medicines prescribed by the Hakim as essential, the same is procured from M/s. Hamdard and supplied to the beneficiaries.

(c) No, Sir. The beneficiaries are free to avail treatment under any system of medicine.

**Extension of B. G. Line from Rongia
Junction to Mokacheleng Railway
Station**

4209. SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to extend the broad gauge line from Rongia to Mokacheleng Railway station as it is the only life line of the people of the Northern Bank of Brahmaputra of Assam; and

(b) if so, when it will be taken up for construction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to extend the BG railway line from Rangiya to Murkong Seleik.

SC/ST Employees in Ministry

4210. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees in the Ministry and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them category-wise;

(b) the backlog of reserved posts as on 31 March, 1986;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to fill the backlog of these reserved vacancies; and