

1,000 ophthalmic assistants were trained during 1987-88.

**Bed population ratio**

4707. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the bed-population ratio in Government hospitals/Primary Health Centres in urban and rural areas of the country at present ; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : According to latest information available from the States/Union Territories, as on 1-1-1987 the number of beds in Government hospitals is 3,85,616 which gives a bed population ratio of one bed for 1984 persons. There are only observation beds in Primary Health Centres as per existing approved pattern and separate bed population ratio for rural areas is not available.

(b) To improve the availability of medical care services in rural areas a scheme for establishing Community Health Centres with 30 beds has been started and there were 1253 Community Health Centres functioning as on 1-1-1988 by 1990 it is expected that 2708 Community Health Centres will be established. The establishment of hospitals, Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres is a State sector activity and allocations are provided under State Plans.

**Educational facilities to weaker section amongst Hindus**

4708 SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provide incentives and facilities to educationally

deprived section amongst Hindus as provided to minorities ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAH) : (a) to (c) A number of incentives and facilities to educationally backward sections are provided by Government at the Centre and State levels, in the form of provision of scholarships, freeships, free books and stationery free uniforms, mid-day meals, opening of schools, Non-formal Education Centres, Adult Education Centres, Ashram Schools, Hostels etc., provision of coaching facilities and Reservation of seats in Educational Institutions.

**Achievement of India's Immunisation Programme**

4709. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the study of UNICEF, the immunisation programme on the supply side is remarkable in the country ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b) No such study has been conducted by the UNICEF. However, in their publication 'The State of the World's Children 1988' only a statement has appeared which is given below.

**Statement**

**THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN**

India :

the threshold of immunity

A mid-course review of India's immunization effort the largest anywhere, suggests a cautious optimism. A great surge is