

Representation by Maharashtra for importing tablets from England

657. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representation in the month of March & April 1977 from Maharashtra State seeking permission to import medical tabs from England;

(b) whether the said tablets are useful for ear disease are not available in India;

(c) action Government have taken or propose to take in regard to above representation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Demands of employees of Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat Kerala

658. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat, Kerala have put forward any demands to the management; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FER-NANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The demands have been received last month.

(b) The demands relate mainly to revision of scales of Pay, Dearness Allowance, Leave and Travel Rules etc. These will be duly examined.

Free medical facilities to the poor in Rural Areas

659. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

the measures taken by his Ministry to provide free medical facilities to the poor in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): The medical and health needs of the people in rural areas are presently being met by a net-work of primary health centres and sub-centres all-over the country. In order to improve such services in the rural areas further, the Government have under consideration a 'Rural Health Scheme' which envisages selection of community health workers by the community. Such community health workers will provide basic preventive, promotive and curative services at the level of the community. This also provides for improvement in the quality of the professional services by way of increasing the number of multi-purpose workers, induction of a large number of doctors in the rural areas and making medical colleges responsible for total health of selected primary health centres. It envisages training of about 5.8 lakh community health workers in a period of two years and training of equal number of dais to look after the deliveries ante-natal and post-natal cares in the rural areas. The details of the scheme are under examination of Finance Ministry and Planning Commission.

Indo-Bangladesh agreement on Ganga Waters

660. SHRI M. KALYANA-SUNDARAM:
SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:
SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached on the question of sharing Ganga waters between India and Bangladesh;