

**Khan to India for medical treatment; and**

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During Foreign Minister's official visit to Kabul September this year, he had mentioned to the Afghan authorities that Government of India is willing to send a doctor for Badshah Khan and if he desires to come to India for treatment, the Government and the people of India would welcome him. India is ready to provide the best possible advice and facilities available with us in this regard. Our offer has also been conveyed to Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan personally.

#### **Pension Paid to Members of Parliament**

621. SHRI AJIT SINGH DABHI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Members of Parliament who have completed full term of five years are being given any pension;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government has taken decision to bring a Bill to amend the Members of Parliament Salary and Allowances Act so as to give pension also to those Members of Parliament who have missed to complete the term of five years only by 15 days; and

(c) if so, when that Bill will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question regarding amendments to the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of

Parliament Act, 1954 in regard to pension of ex-Members of Parliament is under consideration of the Government. This question has been listed as an item for discussion with the Leaders of Opposition parties/groups in Parliament and a decision will be taken when the discussions conclude.

#### **Cost of Sterilisation**

622. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of political will in carrying forward population control under the Family Welfare Programme has pushed up the cost of sterilisation;

(b) if so, the details regarding the cost per patient at present and what was the cost of sterilisation per patient two years before; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the target is to bring down the birth rate from over 33 per 1,000 now to 30 by 1983, and there is actually a sharp drop in coverage of couples in the reproductive age group under all forms of Family Planning Programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Joint Conference of Central Council of Health and the Central Family Welfare Council in its meeting held in October, 1978 discussed the totality of the Family Welfare Programme and noted with regret the inadequate performance in respect of levels of achievements stipulated for various States/Union Territories. In this context the question of mobilising political will to carry forward the programme was also discussed.

(b) It is difficult to work out direct costs per sterilisation as the staff engaged at various levels is responsible not only for sterilisation but also for