

tions; namely, Institute of Asian and African Studies under Moscow State University, Institute of International Relations, Moscow; Leningrad State University and Tashkent State University.

None of these institutions is named after an Indian writer/scholar. However, School Number 19 in Moscow has a club named after Premchand where students are encouraged to make an in-depth study of Hindi literature. No institution in USSR is affiliated to Indo-Soviet Friendship Society in New Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

Officer Responsible to Implement National Leprosy Control Programme

7796. SHRI HARINATH MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the officer in the Central Government responsible for the implementation of the National Leprosy Control Programme when its object has been declared to achieve eradication of the disease within 15 to 20 years;

(b) are the status and authority of the officer commensurate with his responsibility; and

(c) if not, what further measures Government propose to take in order to strengthen the hands of the officer for speedy and effective execution of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) The National Leprosy Control Programme is one of several National Health Programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. In respect of all such programme, the policy direction and guidance is given by the Ministry of Health. The technical and executive responsibility for implementation of the central elements of such programmes as also the broad coordination of the elements assigned to the States is done in the Directorate General of Health

Services by the Assistant Director General (Leprosy) under the control and guidance of the Director General. The implementation of the major elements of such programmes is assigned to the State Governments/Union Territories and Administrations concerned who carry it out under their own procedures and through their officers appointed for this purpose.

(b) The status of the Programme Officer is considered to be commensurate with the importance of the Programme, taking into account the status and authority of other officers entrusted with similar responsibility for other National Health Programmes.

(c) Does not arise.

Policy to Attract Doctor's to Work for Leprosy

7797. SHRI HARINATH MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is the policy of Government to attract doctors to work consistently for leprosy;

(b) how many of such full-time doctors, working for more than 5 years in the Central Government have not been confirmed in service; and

(c) the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) To attract doctors to work full time in the leprosy field, a special pay of Rs. 200/- p.m. is admissible under the National Leprosy Control Programme, being implemented through the State Governments/Union Territories and Voluntary SET (Survey, Education and Training) Centres.

(b) and (c) The confirmation in the Central Health Service depends upon the availability of permanent vacancies and the respective seniority of the incumbents of the posts in the relevant grades of the Service. Only one officer

working consistently in the Speciality of Leprosy, having more than 5 years service, has yet to be confirmed.

Taking over of National Leprosy Control Programme

7798. SHRI HARINATH MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take over the entire National Leprosy Control Programme in its own hand for eradication of the disease within the coming 15 to 20 years, and implement it in association with the International Organisations, State Governments and voluntary organisations; and

(b) if not, where is the possibility of ensuring implementation and eradication under the existing system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) The National Leprosy Control Programme has been categorised as a hundred per cent centrally financed programme with effect from 1-4-81. It is being implemented, as in the case of other National Health Programmes, through the States and also with the assistance of international agencies and voluntary organisations.

(b) It is expected that with the changed pattern of funding the effective implementation of the programme during the Sixth Five Year Plan Period, will receive an impetus.

Meeting between Representatives of DADGS Authorities of DGHS

7799. SHRI K. B. S. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting was held with the representatives of all Deputy Assistant Director Generals and with the Authorities of the Director General Health Services at New Delhi in February, 1981;

(b) the subjects which were discussed in the meeting and the decisions arrived at; and

(c) when these decisions will be implemented and if implemented, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c). Yes. The Deputy Assistant Director General (Medical Stores) of the Government Medical Store Depots at Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Karnal and Gauhati participated in the meeting. Several administrative and procedural matters were discussed with a view to improve the efficiency and performance of these Depots. The decisions taken to improve the efficiency of the Depots are being processed.

Opening of Maternity Centres in Orissa

7800. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open some Maternity Centres in Orissa State during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details regarding their number and locations and the amount which has been sanctioned for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Alternative Railway Routes from Gauhati

7801. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that alternative railway routes from