

News item captioned "Leprosy Patients allege forcible conversion"

1272. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press news captioned "Leprosy patients allege forcible conversion" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 23 June, 1982;

(b) if so, whether a large number of Hindu and Muslim members of the local Samiti has protested against this outside the office of Delhi Social Welfare Board; and

(c) what remedial measures have been adopted by the Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). According to available information there was no protest in respect of the alleged forcible conversion of leprosy patients outside the office of the Delhi Social Welfare Board as alleged in the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times issue of Wednesday, 23rd June, 1982.

In view of this the question of taking remedial measures in regard to alleged forcible conversion does not arise.

Assessment to make sure benefits of Health services for poors

1273. SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMED :

SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH :

SHRI CHINGWANG KONYAK :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made to ensure that benefits of health services reach the poor for whom they are primarily intended, if so, full details thereof;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that benefits of health services reach the poor and whether any direction has been given recently by the Hon'ble Prime Minister; and

(c) if so, the details of steps proposed to be taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE: (KUMARI KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI) (a) Yes, various exercises have been undertaken to identify the short-comings in the existing health care services set-up.

(a) and (c). Observing that health care facilities in the rural areas are inadequate, the Prime Minister has desired that efforts should be made to ensure that the benefits of health services reach the poor people for whom they are primarily intended. Necessary action on the directions of the Prime Minister is being taken.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras in U.P.

1274. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Uttar Pradesh where Nehru Yuvak Kendras are functioning;

(b) the total amount provided for these centres during the current year for programmes to be implemented by them ; and

(c) the amount provided for Districts of Pithoragarh and Almora during 1981-82 and the amount proposed to be provided during 1982-83 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE: (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) In the State of Uttar Pradesh, Nehru Yuvak Kendras are functioning in 28 districts.

(b) The total amount allocated to the Nehru Yuvak Kendras in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year so far is Rs. 23.05 lakhs.

(c) During 1981-82 the Nehru Yuvak Kendras located in the Districts of Pithoragarh and Almora were allocated funds amounting to Rs. 1,88,080/- and 1,29,500/- respectively which also included allocation of funds for meeting expenditure on adult education centres. During the current financial year, the Nehru Yuvak Kendras located in the Districts of Pithoragarh and Almora have been allocated funds amounting to Rs. 85,000/- and Rs. 82,000/- respectively. Additional funds for meeting the expenditure on adult education centres and past commitments, if any, will be allocated to these kendras on receipt of requirements of funds from them.

Electrification of Railway Tracks

1275. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total kilometrage of railway tracks electrified, so far; and

(b) what is the plan target for above purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) 5500 Rkms approximately.

(b) About 2800 Rkms during 6th Plan, depending on availability of funds.

India-Indonesia Cultural Agreement

1276. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) when was the last cultural agreement between India and Indonesia signed ;

(b) whether there is any possibility of a cultural agreement being signed again between the two nations in the near future ; and

(c) so, by what if time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) to (c) A Cultural agreement between India and Indonesia was signed on 29th December, 1955 which is still in force. The question of signing another cultural agreement, therefore, does not arise.

Construction of Chancery Building in Jakarta

1277. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) When the new chancery building in Jakarta will be completed;

(b) how much expenditure has been incurred on it to date ;

(c) when was the work started; and

(d) What are the reasons of delay, if any ?