

Musk Deer Farming in the Himalayan Region

6722. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1511 on 1 December, 1983 regarding Musk deer framing in the Himalayan Region and state :

(a) whether any intimation has since been received from Baidya Nath Ayurveda and Ahewan; and if so, Government's reaction thereon; and

(b) whether any co-operation with people's republic of China has been proposed and promoted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) No.

(b) There has been no proposal from the People's Republic of China in this regard.

Racial Discrimination in Commonwealth Countries

6723. DR. KRUPASINDU BHOI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is racial discrimination in several commonwealth countries;

(b) if so, whether this was discussed in recent CHOGM Conference; and

(c) any other diplomatic move being taken by the Government to counter racial discrimination in the world ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A.A. RAHIM) : (a) The Governments of all Commonwealth countries are committed to oppose racism in any form.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India has

always condemned and will continue to condemn racial discrimination in any part of the world. In the UN and other international Conference it will be our endeavour to mobilise opinion in support of the continuing struggle against the evil system of apartheid in Southern Africa.

Suggestion to Amend Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961

6724. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the deliberations of a para-legal education workshop for the volunteers of the Mahila Dakshita Samiti held in New Delhi on January 19, 1984;

(b) what are the suggestions made therein for amending the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 especially with regard to the definition of dowry and the time limit from the date of marriage during which the expenses made by parents of the bride can be construed as part of the dowry; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto for making the Dowry Prohibition Act more effective.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) : Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Report of the workshop has not been received. However, a Bill to amend the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the suggestions made will be duly considered.

Presence of U.S. Troops in Lebanon

6725. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the Government's latest reaction to the continued presence and hold of US troops in Lebanon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A.A. RAHIM) : President Reagan