

**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

announced on February 7 that US Marines forming part of the multinational peace-keeping force (MNF) in Lebanon would be "re-deployed" aboard US warships offshore. Since then US Marines have been withdrawn from Lebanon. Our general policy is that all foreign forces must be withdrawn from Lebanon beginning with those of Israel.

**Level Crossing Accident near Balwara Village in Rajasthan on 10.1.1984**

6726. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at least 10 persons were killed and 11 others injured when a train at an unmanned crossing collided with a bus near Balwara village in Jalore District in Rajasthan on Tuesday, the 10 January, 1984; and

(b) if so, the circumstances of the collision and what precautions are being adopted to avoid any level crossing accidents at this point ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) In the accident at an unmanned crossing near Balwara station of Northern Railway on 10.1.84, 8 persons lost their lives and 16 received injuries.

(b) The accident occurred due to negligence of the bus driver while negotiating the unmanned level crossing.

At all unmanned level crossings, including this, the road signs are provided for the guidance of road users. From time to time, publicity campaigns are launched through various media to educate the road users about the safeguards to be adopted while negotiating the level crossings. Co-operation of State Governments is sought for rigid observance of Motor Vehicles Rules by the road users.

**वाराणसी और मुगलसराय में मकानों का आबंटन**

6727. श्री राजनाथ सोनकर शास्त्री : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मुगलसराय में उत्तर रेलवे और उत्तर पूर्वी रेलवे तथा वाराणसी में डीजल इंजन वर्कशॉप के कर्मचारियों को मकानों के आबंटन में अदे-भाव की नीति अपनाई जा रही है;

(ख) क्या कुछ कर्मचारियों ने अपने मकानों को अवैध रूप से किराए पर चढ़ाया हुआ है उसका अत्यधिक किराया वसूल कर रहे हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में रेल मंत्रालय ने अब तक क्या कार्रवाई की है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) जिन 5 मामलों का पता लगाया गया है उनमें से 3 मामलों में क्वार्टरों का आबंटन रह कर दिया गया है और अनुशासन एवं अपील नियम के अधीन कार्यवाही की गयी है तथा शेष दो मामलों के सम्बन्ध में, कार्रवाई की जा रही है।

**Encouragement to Girl's Education at Primary Stage**

6728. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have sponsored a new scheme to encourage girls' education at the primary stage;

(b) if so, names of the States where such a centrally sponsored scheme has been introduced, so far;