

requiring increased funds for providing efficient services such as sanitary, medical, water, etc., at present day increased costs for the convenience of the floating pilgrim population.

Dispensaries in Tripura

1398. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of dispensaries in Tripura that are being run at present without qualified medical officers; and

(b) the steps taken to get qualified medical officers for hospitals and dispensaries in Tripura?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) Eighteen.

(b) The shortage of qualified doctors is mainly in the rural areas. The difficult means of communication, lack of amenities and high cost of living in Tripura are the main reasons which deter the qualified doctors from serving in the rural areas. Vigorous efforts are, however, being made both by the Administration as well as the Tripura Territorial Council to remove these difficulties. With a view to attract more qualified doctors from outside, a proposal for grant of non-practising allowance to them in the Primary Health Centres under the Tripura Territorial Council is under consideration of the Government of India. In order to mitigate the shortage of doctors, superannuated doctors are being appointed on re-employment basis till the situation improves. Efforts are also being made to fill the posts by qualified medical graduates through the Union Public Service Commission.

Ring Wells and Tube Wells

1399. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in Tripura;

(b) the total number of ringwells and tube-wells set up so far in rural areas to provide drinking water;

(c) the total number of ringwells and tube-wells to be set up in 1962-63 in rural areas;

(d) whether more ringwells and tube-wells are considered to be necessary; and

(e) steps taken to provide them?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) 3,626.

(b) (i) Tube-wells—1,226

(ii) Masonry wells—251.

(iii) R.C.C. wells—237.

(iv) Partly lined wells—138.

(c) (i) Tube-wells—270.

(ii) R.C.C. wells—40.

(d) Yes.

(e) Rs. 9 lakhs are proposed to be spent in 1963-64, 1964-65 and 1965-66 at the rate of Rs. 3 lakhs each year for the village water supply scheme under the Local Development Works Programme.

New Medical Colleges

1400. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 558 on the 3rd May, 1962 and state:

(a) the extent of shortage of new medical graduates; and

(b) what are the criteria for location of new medical colleges?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) The anticipated shortage of doctors by the end of the Third Five Year Plan would be of the order of 15,000.

(b) The criteria for location of new medical colleges are broadly as follows:

- (i) Population to be served within the State—student population ratio and doctor population ratio. The Health Survey and Planning Committee have remarked that it would per-

haps be a safe target to aim at having one doctor for every 3,000/3,500 population at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

- (ii) Existing facilities, such as buildings, equipment, etc., available for starting new medical colleges;
- (iii) Facilities available in the hospital or hospitals to be attached to the college to be started;
- (iv) Availability within the State, of teaching staff and other personnel required for running the college;
- (v) Availability of funds; and
- (vi) Preference for backward and under-developed areas wherever it is necessary and possible.

Minor Ports in Kerala

1401. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the minor ports in Kerala for which money has been allotted in the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) what is the amount for each port?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Provision has been included in Third Five Year Plan for the development of the following minor ports in Kerala:—

Serial No.	Name of port	Provision (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Nendakara	111.65
2.	Beyport	10.00
3.	Kozhikode	10.00
4.	Azhikal	2.00
5.	Tellicherry	0.50

Serial No.	Name of port	Provision (Rs. in lakhs)
6.	Alleppey	1.50
7.	General (Dredger for internal dredging at intermediate and minor ports)	20.00
TOTAL.		155.65

Locust Invasion

1402. **Shri Bishwanath Roy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a serious locust threat is expected to the country in 1962-63; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government have proposed any steps to be taken for safety from the same to crops in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India is responsible for locust survey and control operations in the Scheduled Desert Area only. The Scheduled Desert Area is spread over 80,000 square miles covering desert areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab. Outside the Scheduled Desert Area, the responsibility for locust control rests with the State Governments concerned, but the Central Government provides the requisite technical and material assistance through its Plant Protection Directorate whenever called upon to do so.

The following steps have been taken by the Government of India to meet the locust menace on an all India basis:

- (i) the States vulnerable to locust attacks, including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, have been alerted and advised about the steps they should take to meet the impending locust threat;