

World Medical Conference

1903. Shri Rameshwar Tanti: Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Third World Medical Conference is to be held in India this year;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be held;

(c) how many countries are to participate; and

(d) what will be the agenda of the conference and its purposes?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) to (d). The Third World Conference on Medical Education is likely to be held in India from 20th to 25th November, 1966. About 60-65 countries are expected to participate in the Conference. The theme of the Conference is —“Medical Education—Factor in Socio-Economic Development”. This theme will be discussed under the following sub-heads—

- (i) Social change and scientific advance—their relation to medical education.
- (ii) Medical education and the National structure.
- (iii) Organization of medical education to meet the changing needs of society.
- (iv) Planning new programmes in medical education.

Efficacy and Popularity of Loop

1904. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted about the popularity of loop and its efficacy and

(b) if so, how far it has proved efficacious in reducing the number of births?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). Yes. The loop is very popular and its efficacy in reducing the birth rate is presently under study. As no pregnancy takes place while the loop is in position, it must prove efficacious in reducing the number of births.

Central Stationery Office, Calcutta

1905. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether any definite decision has been taken to decentralise the budget of the Central Stationery Office, Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what will be its effect on the buying of bulk supply at cheaper rates?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). As part of the re-organisation of the arrangements in the Government of India Stationery Office, it is proposed that no indents, the value of which is less than Rs. 1,000 and no demands for items costing less than Rs. 100 each, should be entertained by the Controller of Stationery. The purchase and supply of items of petty value has been found to be uneconomical and it will be cheaper for indentors to make local purchases of such items. This will also eliminate delays in supplies. As it was not possible to arrange for decentralisation of the budget for the year 1966-67, it has been decided to implement the proposal from the year 1967-68.

Housing loan for Harijans in Mysore

1906. Shri Linga Reddy: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money given to Harijan Housing cooperatives as loan