

offices have been provided with heavy iron chains by which full opening of the gates is avoided. No outsider is allowed to enter the treasure premises. In some of the post offices, round the clock police guards have been engaged temporarily.

Strict instructions have been given to all the Postmasters to avoid retention of heavy cash over night where security arrangement is inadequate. In some of the States, Post office cash and stamps kept in police stations overnight.

In all cases of theft, robberies and dacoities outsiders were involved and the cases were immediately reported to police authorities who took up investigations promptly.

(e) Not Applicable.

[Translation]

Quacks

2921. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to identify the number of quacks functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) No Survey has been conducted by the Government to find out number of quacks functioning in the country.

(c) Penal Provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as well as in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practice medicine in any state and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

Further, the Government has initiated steps to enact legislation for prohibition of unauthorised Institutions, awarding degrees etc. in Modern Medicine and ISM & H as also practice by unqualified persons in these systems.

[English]

Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme

2922. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any comprehensive health scheme for the general public;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) Health is a State subject. It is for the concerned State Government to formulate any comprehensive health insurance scheme for the people residing in that particular State. However, a number of medical insurance policies are available in the country and any one can purchase those policies from the insurance companies by paying the requisite premium.

Allocations from C.R.F.

2923. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated from the Central Road Fund during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the name of the projects being implemented with Central Road Fund at present, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the funds proposed to be allocated during 1999-2000, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation from Maharashtra and other State/Union Territory for additional funds; and

(e) if so, the allocation made/being made, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) State-