

*[English]***Science of Ayurveda**

*122. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the oldest science of Ayurvedic treatment is gradually disappearing;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) The action Government propose to take so that this knowledge is preserved;
- (d) whether the Government are aware that very few people are left with the Nadi Gyan i.e. capacity of diagnosis of disease through vibration of the pulse, in the country;
- (e) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide due protection to the science of Ayurvedic diagnosis, preparation of cheap medicines and treatment with the help of such medicines which do not cause any side effect; and
- (f) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since independence the Government has taken various steps for the promotion and development of Ayurveda. Basic infrastructure as indicated below has been built:

- (i) IMCC Act, 1970 was passed with a view to enforce minimum standards of education, register and lay down professional conduct and code of ethics for ISM Practitioners.
- (ii) The establishment of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha.
- (iii) A network of 123 Government and non-Government teaching institutions of Ayurveda and Siddha across the country.
- (iv) Centres of excellence at Banaras Hindu University, Gujarat Ayurvedic University Jamnagar, National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur.
- (v) Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad set up for work pertaining to drug standardisation and quality control.
- (vi) Setting up of a separate Department of ISM&H.
- (vii) With the creation of the Department of ISM&H, various developmental schemes have been formulated for the implementation in the 9th Plan period.

(d) to (f) There are approximately 3.70 lakh physicians of Ayurveda. All institutionally trained physicians

are taught the technique of Nadi Vigyan. Last year the Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth organised a workshop on Nadi Vigyan.

There is a Central Scheme for enhancing the availability of raw material used in the manufacture of ISM&H drugs. It is widely acknowledged that Ayurvedic medicines are not only cost effective but also substantially without side effects.

Foreign Investors in Road Construction

*124. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have since decided to offer some special concessions to foreign investors for investment in the construction of roads;
- (b) if so, the details of the concessions;
- (c) whether any foreign investors have since applied for the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Government has recently approved a new policy package for encouraging private investment both domestic and foreign, in the development of National Highways. The policy provides for the choice of the investor through competitive bidding and does not provide for any special concession to foreign investors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Dispute On Irrigation Projects Between A.P. and Orissa

*126. SHRI L. RAMANA:
SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of long pending disputes between Andhra Pradesh and Orissa over irrigation projects like Vamsadhara, Jhanjavathi and Bahuda; and

(b) the measures taken to persuade the State Governments to solve the disputes amicably?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Neradi Barrage, a component of Vamsadhara Stage-II as proposed by Government of Andhra Pradesh was likely to submerge 1326 acres of land in Orissa against 106 acres agreed by Government of Orissa. Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted modified proposal in February, 1996 wherein Neradi Barrage was not included thus eliminating submergence of the Orissa territory. However, concurrence of Orissa Government to the modified proposal has not been received.

The dispute between the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa on Jhanjawati Project is regarding demarcation of interstate boundary for assessment of actual area of submergence.

The Project report on Bahuda project prepared by the Government of Andhra Pradesh was not in accordance with the inter-State agreement with Orissa which *Inter alia* specifies that storage in Andhra Pradesh on Bahuda river would not involve any submergence of Orissa territory, but allows Andhra Pradesh construction of some ancillary works needed for functioning of the storage scheme on Orissa territory. Modified report is still awaited from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

A number of official level meetings have been held in Central Water Commission with the officials of State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa to resolve the above issue

The Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have also met in June, 1992 and again in December, 1994 to resolve the issues. The last Ministerial level meeting between the two States on this was held on 1.2.1997 at Bhubaneswar.

[Translation]

Blind Persons

*129. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of blind persons have increased sharply in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have chalked out any plan for their treatment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of blind persons likely to be benefited by the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) According to the National survey conducted in 1986-89, there were about 12 million blind people in the country. No nation-wide survey has been undertaken thereafter to estimate changes in the number of blind persons in the country.

(b) and (c) The Government under National Programme for Control of Blindness have chalked out the following schemes to be implemented during the IX Five Year Plan Period : -

- (i) Strengthening of existing infrastructure for eye care through Establishment of District Eye Care Mobile Units.
- (ii) Strengthening of Community Health Centres/ Sub-district Hospitals and assistance for setting up or expansion of Eye Care Units and Eye Banks in Voluntary Sector.

(iii) Strengthening management of eye care programme at Central and State level and setting of District Blindness Control Societies throughout the country.

(iv) Strengthening of school eye screening programme for refractive errors.

(v) Development of Human Resources through technical and managerial training.

(vi) Need-based and appropriate activities relating to Information, Education and Communication to generate demands for eye care.

(d) During the 9th Five Year Plan about 175 lakh people are likely to be benefited through Cataract Operations.

[English]

Hindustan Shipyard

*130. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector Hindustan Shipyard has become the first shipyard in the country to receive the IS 9001;

(b) if so, the main quality of parameters of IS 9001;

(c) whether the shipyard will be able to provide quality products and services after receiving IS 9001; and

(d) if so, by what time IS 9001 will be applicable to the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to ISO - 9001. Yes, Sir. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. is the first Public Sector Shipyard in the country to receive ISO - 9001,

(b) The main parameter of ISO : 9001 is the model for quality assurance in design development, production, installation and servicing for shipbuilding in conformity with international standards.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While it is not mandatory to obtain ISO: 9001, accreditation to the international standard is an added advantage for the Yard.

[Translation]

Research Work to control Population Growth

*131. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: