

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the then Minister appears to be more theoretical than practical. The member has raised the question on the basis of his personal experience. Whenever we go to that area we also feel sorry to see the deteriorated condition there. It is high time to take strict steps for the prevention of deforestation on the large scale. What steps are proposed to be taken to enforce the present provisions, so that deforestation is stopped and to make that area green again. Do you propose to make a new-scheme or not? You can yourself visit the areas of Ranchi and Chhota-nagpur and see the deteriorated conditions of forests there.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a question. You are giving a lecture.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: There is nothing like lecture in it. Moreover the proceedings of the House, are also not being telecast today. It is a matter of great concern that the forest cover has reduced to one third there.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will disallow this question, if you continue like this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I would like to know whether the measures are proposed to be taken soon in order to prevent further denudation of forests and to start afforestation programmes on large scale?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there may be instances of felling of trees in some areas. I do not deny it. It is possible. If the hon. Member provides us some information regarding

this, I would get it investigated. We have directed the States to send details and figures pertaining to the last 9 months about the plantation done. But Bihar Government has not yet sent any figures. Recently, in a conference of the Forest Ministers I had urged them to send the figures. As soon as they are received from Bihar Government, I would make arrangements to keep them in library so that hon. Members can see the information. Regarding other afforestation programmes, if some special information is asked, it will be provided.

Ayurvedic Medicines and Doctors

*82. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for development and quality control of Ayurvedic medicines and for better career prospects of Ayurvedic doctors; and

(b) the facilities being provided to the manufactures of Ayurvedic medicines and to the doctors in this regard?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Government of India have taken several legal and administrative action to develop and control the quality of ayurvedic medicines. Steps to improve career prospects of ayurvedic doctors have also been taken.

These are as follows:

1. Constitution of Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia Committee as early as 1962.

2. Bringing Ayurvedic drugs under the purview of Drugs and Cosmetics Act (1964) in order to regulate the manufacture of Ayurvedic Drugs for sale.
3. Setting up of the Pharmacopial Laboratory for Indian Medicine at Ghaziabad for (i) evolving standards for quality control of ayurvedic drugs and (ii) to test samples of ayurvedic drugs sent to the laboratory.
4. Financial assistance for cultivation of medicinal plants in order to assist manufactures of Ayurvedic Medicines to have adequate supply of raw material.
5. Setting up of Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd. in order to ensure production of genuine and good quality Ayurvedic drugs.
6. Setting up of Central Council for Research in Ayurveda for scientific research in fundamental and applied aspects of ayurveda.
7. The following steps have been taken for better career prospects of Ayurvedic Doctors:-

- (i) All Ayurvedic physicians in Group 'B' Grade (650-1200) before 1.1.1986 under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have been placed in Group 'A' Grade (2200-4000) from 1.1.86.
- (ii) To improve the Career Prospects of Ayurvedic Doctors under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, a High Powered Committee was appointed and based on its recommendations 36 posts have

been upgraded in Ayurveda at different levels. 33 Ayurvedic Doctors are promoted to the Grade of Senior Physicians (3000-4500) and 5 have been promoted to the Chief Medical Officer Grade (3700-5000) from 5.12.1991.

- (iii) The recommendations of a Committee set up for improving the career prospects of ayurvedic doctors in autonomous institutions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are under consideration.
- (iv) A scheme for refresher course has been initiated for continuing medical education of Ayurvedic Doctors.

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Has the Central Government directed the State Governments to provide the pay-scales and facilities to Ayurvedic doctors equal to those provided to the M.B.B.S. doctors in various States. Because their qualification is equal to the M.B.B.S. It takes 5 years to complete M.B.B.S. course while Ayurvedic degree course is of six years duration.

MR. M.L. FOREDAR: Hon. Mr. Speaker, hon. Member knows it very well that Health is a State subject. We can give equal salary and status to Ayurvedic doctors and Allopathic doctors in centre and not in States. Recently, in December we have given benefit to thirty eight doctors working under C.G.H.S. We have revised their pay scale. We have brought them at par with M.O. Physician of Allopathy by giving them pay scale of Rs. 2200-4000/-. Similarly, we have brought at par the senior Ayurvedic doctors with senior M.Os in Allopathy. The pay scale of Rs.

3700-5000 available to the Chief Medical Officer in Allopathy has also been made available to Ayurvedic doctors subject to vacancy. We have worked out a system in which all the doctors of indigenous system of medicines get the same scale as the allopathic doctors. All the Ayurvedic doctors are happy and satisfied with the issuance of these orders.

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Would the hon. Minister give directions to all the State Governments about the pay scale. Third M.Os appointed by Central Government have also not been the given salary for the last ten months. Does the Government propose to release their salary now and the time by which it is likely to be released? These Medical Officers were appointed by the Centre.

MR. SPEAKER: What did the State Government say?

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Third medical officers were appointed by the Central Government. They have not been paid their salary for the last ten months. What action the Government is going to take in this regard?

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know that the third medical officers were appointed by Centre in the State of Uttar Pradesh. I would look into it. But you can ask questions from Uttar Pradesh Government regarding the Ayurvedic doctors in that State.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: What the Government have thought about the doctors who have been appointed by the Central Government and have not been paid salary for the last ten months. The reply to this question should come from you.

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, where there is the question of Central Government assistance, you may give a notice and I would look into this matter.

[*English*]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Kerala's contribution for the development of Ayurvedic system of medicines is always commended. Therefore, very good Ayurvedic hospitals and doctors are there. One of the serious problems now being faced in Kerala is the non-availability of Ayurvedic herbs and plants. They have become very acute due to deforestation process now taking place in different parts of the country. So, on the basis of this, the Kerala Government has given a request to the Central Government for assistance.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask a question. Why don't you come to the question directly so that you can get a clear cut answer?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Kerala Government has given a request to the Central Government for giving adequate assistance for starting herbs plantation and small gardens around Ayurvedic hospitals and institutions. Will the Central Government give them adequate assistance for this?

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: Last year we had given some assistance to the States of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala. Last year we had given Rs. 5 lakhs to the comptroller of Kerala Agricultural University, Trichur for medicinal plants, for protection and cultivation of them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Do the Government have the information that the officers of the Government Fertilizer Factory located at Amjhore in Bihar, have given in writing that they do not require any Ayurvedic doctor?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have information?

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: I have abso-

lutely no information. Only in two States, namely, U.P. and Gujarat, the State Governments have adopted it. While in each PHC, there is one Ayurvedic doctor, in these States, Bihar Government comes in that.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these Ayurvedic doctors in Rajasthan— (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. Next question – Shri Vijay Naval Patil.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)**

Environmental Clearance of Development Projects

*83. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:
SHRI GANGADHARA
SANIPALLI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development projects cleared by his Ministry during the last one year, State-wise and project-wise;

(b) the details of the development projects pending with the Government for environmental clearance as on February 29, 1992, State-wise and project-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the pending projects; and

(d) the steps taken to clear these projects early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Statement –I listing the projects approved since 1st March, 1991 is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). Statement–II listing the projects pending for environmental clearance as on 29th February, 1992 together with the reasons for pendency is also laid on the table of the House.

(d) projects can be assessed only after receiving complete environmental data and action plans and a final decision in such cases is taken within a maximum period of three months. Regular interaction is maintained with the project authorities for expeditious supply of requisite data.

STATEMENT-I

List of Projects Accorded Environmental Clearance from 01. 3. 1991 to 29.2.92

Sl. No.	Name of the Project
1	2
1.	MINING PROJECTS
ANDHRA PRADESH	
1.	Ramagundem OCP-II Project, Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.
2.	Bhawanipuram Limestone mine of Daccan Cement Ltd.
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	
3.	Quarrying activities linked to construction of Breakwater at Rangat in middle Andaman.
BIHAR	
4.	Block -II OCP of Bharat coking Coal Ltd. (BBCL).