

Government, the CGHS is to be extended first to the capital cities of the States which fulfil the prescribed norms subject to the availability of resources.

There is a proposal to open one Ayurvedic and one Homoeopathic dispensary in Trivandrum during the year 1998-99 subject to availability of infrastructure including staff.

[Translation]

Complaints against Distributors

243. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of complaints received against distributors and Regional Sales Officers from Members of Parliament/Ex-MP's/consumers for the last three years, year wise;

(b) the number of complaints out of them disposed of by the Government; and

(c) the time by which the pending complaints are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) the yearwise details of complaints received against PSU Oil Companies distributorships from Members of Parliament/Ex-MPs/Consumers during the last three years are given below :

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Complaints from MPs/Ex-MPs	104	123	205
Complaints from Consumers	77139	106105	88004
Complaints against Field Officers	2	1	4

All Complaints received during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 were disposed off.

Generally, complaints received from MPs/Ex-MPs and consumers are investigated and required to be disposed off within a months time. For complaints pending for more than one months time due to circumstances beyond control, efforts are made to resolve the same with regular follow up with the Oil Companies.

[English]

Creation of SC's/ST's Development Corporation

244. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minis-

ter of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recommended creation of SCs/STs development corporation on the lines of the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

E.S.I. Scheme

245. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the basic features of Employees State Insurance Scheme and the date of its introduction;

(b) the number of workers (beneficiaries) contributing towards ESI at present; and

(c) the details of participation of the State Governments and ESI Corporation in regard to providing benefits to the beneficiaries ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Employees' State Insurance Scheme provides comprehensive Medical Care and cash benefits to the workers/families in the contingencies of sickness, maternity and employment injury resulting in disablement or death. The Scheme is applicable to power-using factories employing 10 or more persons and non-power using factories and certain other establishments employing 20 or more persons. The Scheme is applicable to the employees drawing wages up to Rs. 6500/- per month. The Scheme was initially introduced at two centres with effect from 24.2.1952. Presently there are 83.62 Lakh employees contributing to the Scheme.

(d) The responsibility for administration of Medical Care under the ESI Scheme vests in the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations except in Delhi and Noida where it is being administered by the ESIC direct. The work relating to disbursement of cash benefits to the beneficiaries is being administered by the ESI Corporation.

Employment Exchanges for Handicapped

246. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMAD : Will