

health services to workers. I request the hon. Minister to conduct a survey of E.S.I. hospitals. The survey will show that these hospitals are not providing the facilities expected from them. His contention that all facilities are available is not true. The Government is requested to provide textile workers the same facilities which have been provided to 'Beedi Workers'. A national-level survey regarding the condition of textile workers should be carried out all over the country as has been done in case of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, there is no need for a survey. The state of hospitals all over the country is bad. This includes all hospitals and not just the ones meant for workers. So we have to improve conditions of all hospitals. I assure the hon. Member that in the coming days, steps will be taken to improve the conditions in all the hospitals, particularly E.S.I. hospitals.

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Sir, there are a large number of textile mills in my constituency. Workers of those mills have the highest incidence of T.B. among all textile workers in the country. Nearly 80% of the textile workers in Kanpur suffer from T.B. One of the reasons for this is the very low wages of workers there. For the last five years there has been no revision of wages of textile workers be they in the private sector or public sector. Does the Government propose to hold a tripartite conference to solve the problems of textile workers?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, the question is related to diseases suffered by textile workers, not their wages. So I cannot comment on that. Kanpur is the oldest textile centre of the country. The mills situated there have been built with outdated technology resulting in fewer facilities compared to other textile centres. What the hon. Member said is true. Disease and unhygienic conditions do prevail there and this aspect needs special attention.

[English]

DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Sir, as the

Prime Minister has correctly pointed out, tuberculosis is not the only disease which is caused by exposure to certain dust particles in the Textile Mills but there are other diseases like Pneumoconiosis etc. which are caused due to exposure to dust. There is a simple method by which this disease can be detected in the earliest stage. There is a small instrument called the Jaipur Spirometer and if this instrument is used in every Textile Mill just for testing the lung capacity, we can find out the disease in the earliest stage itself. So, my question is: Will the Minister provide this Jaipur Spirometer which costs only about Rs. 200/- to every Mill so that this test can be performed on each worker in the Mill? By doing this test, the disease which is called Pneumoconiosis can be detected in the earlier stage and further measures can be taken.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the suggestion is welcome. We shall look into it and do the needful.

Integrated Child Development Services Projects

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*142. SHRI GOPI NATH
GAJAPATHI:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been launched or is proposed to be launched in the Eighth Five Year Plan to raise the nutrition status, enhance the awareness of mothers and improve the immunisation coverage of children and mothers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent so far on this scheme through Integrated Child Development Services Projects;

(c) the amount earmarked for the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have launched any scheme for organisation of Bal Shivirs and Bal Melas at block and circle level during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Integrated Child Development Service Scheme (ICDS) was launched in 1975 to raise the nutritional and health status and to provide immunisation coverage to children (0—6 years) and mothers, pre-school education to children (3-6 years), and also to enhance the awareness of the mothers. So far an amount of Rs. 800 crores has been spent on ICDS.

In addition, a multi-state Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) project spread over 6 years, with World Bank assistance has also been launched during 1990-91, to cover 110 blocks of Andhra Pradesh and 191 blocks in Orissa with over-all cost of Rs. 303.02 crores.

The Ministry of Health has launched the Universal Immunisation Programme in 1985-86 and covered the entire country at the end of the 7th Plan period.

(c) The 8th Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised so far and, therefore, the state-wise allocation of funds is yet not known.

(d) and (e). Funds have been sanctioned to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for organisation of Balika Shivirs in 250 Districts in the country.

In addition, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations were requested to hold Bal Shivirs and Bal Melas in blocks and circle level between 26th September and 4th October, 1990, on completion of 15 years of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) on 2nd October, 1990, to create

awareness within the community.

[*English*]

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in spite of the details and the assurance offered by the hon. Minister just now, it is widely reported that the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme launched by the Central Government has still not provided adequate benefit in many backward areas of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh for the expectant mothers and children. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will increase the allocation of funds and launch new schemes vigorously in those regions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: There is a proposal to launch the scheme in 15 thousand blocks. It has already been implemented in 2424 blocks where a large number of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are living below poverty line and they are also victims of floods and droughts. Some specific norms have been laid down to implement the scheme. The Government have limited resources at its disposal and still we want this scheme to be implemented. As I have stated, Rs. 800 crores have been spent on this scheme in the Seventh Five Year Plan. We are having a dialogue with the Planning Commission and are making all efforts so that other parts of India may also get the benefits of this scheme. But due to limited resources we are not in a position to implement it in all the districts. I share the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members and assure you that as soon as funds are made available, we shall make sincere efforts to extend this scheme to other parts of the country also.

[*English*]

SHRIGOPINATH GAJAPATHI: I would also like to know from the hon. Minister the state-wise allocation of funds for this project and also during these years, how much

money has been actually utilised for making this scheme useful for the concerned persons.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I have the statistics with me but it will be time consuming to go through it. Therefore, I will show those documents to the hon. Member.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, in my view, any proposed improvement in the Integrated Child Development Scheme cannot be implemented until and unless the service condition of the grassroot level workers, the Anganwadi workers who are engaged in implementing this ICDS Scheme is improved. Sir, it is a matter of great shame—maybe because they are only women—that these Anganwadi workers do not even get any proper, regular wages. All they get is honorarium which I consider perfectly dishonourable. During the tenure of the National Front Government, these workers came to Delhi to attend a conference and they met the then Minister of Labour... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I would like to know from the present Government and I would like to know from the present Labour and Welfare Minister whether the promise which was made by the National Front Government is still on and whether it is going to be implemented in order to improve the conditions of the Anganwadi workers.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR): I cannot make any comment about the promises made by the previous Government. The promises made about the financial implications without the Budgetary support are of no value to the House and to the country. But surely I agree with the hon. Member that the condition of these workers is very bad, very precarious.

[*English*]

Their representation was given to me only

recently. The Government is looking into the matter and we shall do everything possible to see that they are helped.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all over the world it has been recognised that breast feeding provides ideal food for children and as such the advertisement by multinationals of baby foods should be banned. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister a bill to encourage breast feeding and check the production of baby foods was introduced by the Government but that Bill could not be passed. The previous Government had also given an assurance in this regard to the House. I had also brought a similar Private Member's Bill. Therefore, I would like to know from the Government whether it will make efforts to promote breast feeding and try to put a ban on advertisements of baby foods on Television and Radio and programmes sponsored by manufactures of baby foods.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government can do little in the matter of breast feeding of their children by mothers but as far as the second question is concerned the Government will certainly consider and try to curtail the programmes and advertisements which promote baby-foods which have been widely condemned and on account of which various problems have cropped up in our country.

[*English*]

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: ICDS is introduced in six new blocks in Kerala, but unfortunately Members of Parliament are excluded from the Committee to select workers and helpers. So, will you please take immediate steps to include MPs in the Selection Committee to select workers and helpers?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: We do not know the problem, it is very difficult for me to give any assurance.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that at the time of recruiting the Anganwadi teachers mostly they are selected from the urban areas. Whenever we visit the Anganwadis we find that they are not present. In view of this difficulty would the Government make a uniform policy so that the local ladies are given preference at the time of selection? Since the UNICEF has said care for the girl child, what does the Prime Minister think about giving more incentives to the girl child during this year? Can he increase the number of ICDS projects during this year?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: It is true that we should give encouragement and incentives to the local workers that will facilitate the work. But it is not the only reason that because they come from the cities or from the urban areas, they are not in the field to work. The working condition of these Anganwadi workers as indicated by the hon. Member obviously is very bad. Something has to be done to give them more incentives to work in their own areas.

SHRI K.S. RAO: The answer shows that Rs. 800 crores have been spent and in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Rs. 303 crores have been spent—a good and substantial amount. But when we go to the villages we never feel that impact very seriously about this expenditure. I am also given to understand that voluntary organisations are not involved in a big way in implementing this scheme. I wish to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to whether he is going to involve any voluntary organisations of proven integrity and performance and also involve local Members of Parliament to verify or to work with, to see that results are achieved in a manner that is expected by the Government?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, voluntary agencies are welcome and they should take more initiative in this direction. I am sorry that, because of certain lacuna in the earlier functioning of the earlier scheme, the impact has not been felt

on the local population. Government will have to look into all aspects of the malfunctioning of the programme.

New Satellite Series-GRAMSAT

*144. **SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) proposes to place in orbit a separate satellite series-GRAMSAT for rural education and for continuing education programmes in industries;

(b) if so, the details and salient features of the proposed satellite series; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be placed in orbit and to what extent it will help in rural education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has envisaged a concept of a dedicated satellite "GRAMSAT" that could be launched by ISRO's Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The salient features of the satellite are its compatibility with GSLV launch vehicle and a configuration that would be suitable for transmitting signals for reception directly by augmented TV receivers and also for terrestrial rebroadcasting. However, the proposal is yet to be considered by the Government.

(c) A time-frame of 1995-96 has been envisaged. This satellite could be used for eradicating illiteracy in rural areas and for rural development through audio-visual education in health, hygiene, better agricultural facilities, family planning etc., in the local languages, taking into consideration local specific and culture specific requirements of each region.

SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is my first supplementary. Recently, while addressing Scientists' Conference, the hon. Prime Minister emphasised