

ment will not hesitate to import sugar.

### **Ban of Use of Sweetner**

10150. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a direct relationship between aspartame and severe mental illness and other health hazards;

(b) whether this artificial sweetener is widely used in India, if so, what are the producers and companies using it; and

(c) in view of the danger, whether Government propose to put a ban on use of this item in foods and drinks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) Governments attention has been drawn to a news item alleging mental illness and other health hazards caused as a result of consumption of Aspartame. As per information made available by Food and Drug Administration, Washington, U.S.A., the Centre for Disease Control has completed an evaluation of Aspartame. The data generated by the Centre do not provide evidence for the existence of various widespread adverse health consequences attendant to use of Aspartame.

(b) and (c). Under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, Aspartame is permitted to be marketed only as table top sweetener with appropriate label declarations. Its use in any food and drink is not permitted.

### **Primary Health Centres**

10151. SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the 30 districts in the country which have the lowest number of functioning primary health centres;

(b) the number of centres in each district;

(c) whether Government propose to bring those districts at par with national average; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) and (b). District-wise number of functioning Primary Health Centres is not monitored by the Govt. of India. Opening of Primary health Centres comes under state sector minimum needs programme. State Governments are required to open PHCs in each District on population norm basis, for every 30,000 population in plain area and 20,000 population in hilly and backward area.

(c) and (d). All the State Government have been advised by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of health as well, to ensure that there should be no imbalance/shortage of P.H.C.s in each District which are required to be established on population norm basis.

20442 Primary Health Centres are functioning as per date available on 31.3.90 in the country.

[*Trarlslation*]

### **Hostels for ST Boys and Girls in Bihar**

10152. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to build more hostels for boys and girls

belonging to scheduled tribes in Bihar during the current year;

(b) if so, the number of such hostels proposed to be built; and

(c) whether some hostels will also be opened in Bhojpur district?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c). There are Centrally Sponsored Schemes under which grants are given to the States on matching contribution basis for construction of hostels for Scheduled Tribes boys and girls. The number of hostels constructed in a particular year in any State will depend on the proposals received from the State concerned. Proposals of the Government of Bihar for the year 1990-91 are awaited.

[English]

#### Objectives of National Water Development Agency

10153. SHRIGOPINATHGAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the main objective of the National Water Development Agency;

(b) the work done by NWDA so far; and

(c) the details of works likely to be undertaken by NWDA in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) In 1980, the Government prepared a National Perspective for water resources development which comprises two components viz. the Himalayan rivers development and the peninsular rivers development. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in

July, 1982 to carry out field investigations and work out proposals for the Peninsular rivers development component.

(b) and (c). The Peninsular river development entail preparation of preliminary feasibility reports for 17 water transfer links. Up to the end of VII Plan preliminary feasibility reports on 5 links have been prepared and reports for the remaining 12 are programmed to be prepared in VIII Plan. Economic Evaluation Studies of links will also be taken up. The detailed surveys and investigations for the water transfer links will be taken up, subject to the consensus of the basin States.

#### Use of Hindi in CGHS dispensaries

10154. SHRIGOPINATHGAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision of the Official Languages Act and the Annual Programme for progressive use of Hindi is being implemented in all CGHS Dispensaries/Hospitals/Stores/Zonal headquarters and Headquarters in Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the total number of Roman and Devnagari type writers/typists provided in the CGHS headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and various store depots in Delhi/New Delhi; and

(c) the percentage of equipments of Devnagari script to the total number of such equipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) The provision of Official Language Act and rules framed there under are fully complied with for the progressive use of Hindi in the official work in CGHS. Efforts are also made to achieve the targets laid down in the Annual Programme issued by the Department of Official Language every year.