

Biochemic Aid to Rural People

*895. DR. BIJOY MONDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural people do not get as much medical aid as people in Indian cities;

(b) whether *inter alia*, it is a fact that Allopaths are not interested to go to villages for the reason that the return is so little compared to investment in training in Allopath;

(c) if so, whether Biochemic is considered a system to fill up the gap for it and would take short time and little money in training a student; and

(d) whether a full-fledged Biochemic Hospital is being run in or around Madras?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY): (a) Yes, Sir, the medical facilities in rural areas are less in comparison to the facilities in urban areas.

(b) There is reluctance on the part of allopathic doctors to settle in rural areas for various reasons which include inadequacy of facilities, like housing, schooling, communications, electricity, etc.

(c) Biochemic system is a part of the Homoeopathic system and homoeopathy has been recognised as one of the scientific systems of medical care in the country and has been one of the recognised systems under the Rural Health Scheme.

(d) There is a full-fledged Homoeopathic College with attached hospital facilities in Madras City.

DR. BIJOY MONDAL: The Government of India, Ministry of Health, introduced Community Health Workers scheme in the whole country for extending facilities of treatment to the rural people, but we have found

that the scheme is almost a failure and the village people are denied of the right to choose a person according to their choice and they are pressurised by political leaders and political organisations. So, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether he will enquire into the matter and take steps so that the scheme may be implemented properly as per the guidelines given by the Ministry of Health?

SHRI RABI RAY: I do not agree with the Hon. Member when he says the scheme has been a failure. The scheme has been welcomed by the rural population. If he has any specific suggestion to make, I can consider it.

DR. BIJOY MONDAL: The Community Health Workers are trained in the Allopathic system. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he is also going to train all the Community Health Workers in Homoeopathic and Biochemic system also?

SHRI RABI RAY: The Community Health Worker is not a Doctor; nor is he a Government servant. He is given some training for three months and we given him a Chit. Both Homoeopathic and Allopathic as well as Ayurvedic medicines are given to him.

SHRI A. SUNNA SAHIB: What facilities are being made available in the rural areas so that these medical practitioners who are without employment can go there and work, because after becoming medical graduates they find it difficult to get themselves employed. Will the hon. Minister see that in the rural areas all the facilities of the urban areas are made available to these medical practitioners who go there?

MR. SPEAKER: It is difficult.

SHRI RABI RAY: The Government has decided about the minimum need programme; and we are going ahead with that; and the minimum

need programme; and we are going ahead with that; and the minimum need programme will ensure that the doctors will be persuaded to go to the villages. And the minimum need programme is a must to that.

SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: The Biochemic system is a very simple and elementary system. It would be much better if a little background is given to the Community Health Workers so that they can give immediate relief in minor ailments. Will the hon. Minister consider this aspect of the matter and include in the training course extra instructions in the Biochemic system?

SHRI RABI RAY: It is part of the homoeopathic system of medicine. According to the Homoeopathic Central Council Act, the term of homoeopathy has been defined as follows: homoeopathy means homoeopathic system of medicine and includes the use of Biochemic medicine; and we are laying a great stress on that also.

श्री रामबिलास पासवान : अध्यक्ष जी, यह सही है कि जिपने डाक्टर हैं वह देहात में तो जाना नह नहीं चाहते । तो मैं दो प्रश्न मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ :

- (1) अभी तक मरीज पर सरकार कितना खर्चा कर रही है ?
- (2) क्या सटार देहाती इलाकों में इस प्रकार के रेकर र अस्पताल की व्यवस्था करेगी जिससे कि वहाँ डाक्टरों को जाने के लिये बाध्य होना पड़े और देहात के मरीज वहाँ अपना इलाज करवा सकें ?

श्री रवि राव : अध्यक्षजी, माननीय पासवान को मालूम है कि स अभी ग्रामरी हेल्थ केयर पर हम ज्यादा जो दे रहे हैं। एक लाख की आबादी पर एक ग्रामरी हेल्थ सेंटर है। आते चल कर हम 50,000 आबादी पर एक सेंटर करने का इरादा रखते हैं। इसलिए उस पर ज्यादा जोर देते हैं।

Licensing Policy

*896. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the present licensing policy is

authorising and benefitting only three shipping companies;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government;

(c) in view of the fact that foreign flag vessels take away cargo from Indian Ports and small shipping companies remain idle without cargo which is detrimental to the national economy—whether Government will review the whole question; and

(d) if yes, when and if not, why not, state details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b). It is not correct to say that the present licensing policy is authorising and benefitting only three shipping companies. Licences are granted after proper scrutiny to Indian vessels for coastal, overseas liner and tramp and international cross trades under Section 406 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. The licensing policy is aimed at ensuring that employment of Indian vessels in India's overseas trades is so regulated that Indian vessels are gainfully employed and Indian Shipping Companies do not compete with each other to the detriment of overall Indian shipping interests.

(c) and (d). Some small Indian shipowners had made a request that they should be allowed to operate on certain additional overseas routes on the plea among others, that foreign shipping companies are taking Indian cargo. The matter was reviewed by the Government recently and it was agreed that small shipowners may be permitted to operate on the following routes provided their vessels are technically suitable for such operation:—

- (1) India/China.
- (2) West Coast of India/Red Sea.
- (3) West Coast of India/East Africa and West Africa.