

such formal offer has been received, Government will welcome the involvement of the practitioners of Homoeopathy in stepping up the Family Planning Programme.

Visit by President of Botswana

*598. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sir Seretse Khama, President of Botswana (Africa) visited India recently; and

(b) if so, highlights of the agreement reached, and the talks Government had with him?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Joint Communiqué in incorporating the views of the two governments on various important international and bilateral matters was issued. A copy of the Communiqué is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT-10731-A/76].

Opening of New Industrial Tribunals

*599. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to open new industrial tribunals at places of industrial concentration; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Industrial disputes are raised both in the Central and State spheres and Industrial Tribunals are set up by the "Appropriate Government" so far as Central sphere is concerned seven Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts were set up earlier; three at Dhanbad, two at

Bombay and one each at Jalalpur and Calcutta. A new Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court is being set up at New Delhi.

Permission to Engineering Exporters to Import Steel

*602. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether Government are considering a proposal to allow engineering exporters to import steel from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): The import policy in force, even at present, provides for import of steel for Engineering Goods Exporters

Unemployment

*603. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN. Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the figures of unemployment in States have comparatively gone up since last year; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) Precise estimates of unemployment in the country are not available. However, the number of job-seekers (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in different States/ Union Territories had gone up from 84.98 lakhs as on 31st January, 1975 to 93.97 lakhs as on 31st January, 1976.

(b) Bulk of employment opportunities to the unemployed would be provided during the Fifth Five Year Plan through the implementation of Plan programmes in different sectors, such as agriculture, irrigation, power generation, command area deve-

lopment of major irrigation systems, small and medium industries, social services, trade, commerce and other tertiary and allied activities. Under the 20-Point Economic Programmes one of the measures taken to increase employment opportunities for educated young people is the vigorous implementation of the Apprentices Scheme, including the graduate engineers and diploma holders.

Reorganisation of Primary Health Centres and propagation of Family Planning among rural people

2853. SHRI BHAGIRATH BHANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to reorganise the existing Primary Health Centres with a view to make the Family Planning Programme effective;

(b) whether it is also proposed to provide more resources to them; and

(c) whether any new methods are proposed to be adopted to educate thoroughly and effectively the illiterate rural people about the importance of family planning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A K M ISHAQUE) (a) Yes. Under the minimum needs programme, it is proposed to convert one out of every 4 P. H. Cs into a 30 bedded hospital. It is further proposed to equip 1000 Primary Health Centres during the 5th Five Year Plan period for providing facilities for tubectomy and M. T. P operations.

(b) During the year 1976-77, a provision of Rs. 40 lakhs has been made for providing Central assistance to State/Union Territories for renovation of labour rooms and purchase of equipment for P. H. Cs.

(c) A multi-media motivational campaign is being launched to carry the family planning message to the people in all parts of the country.

Accidents in Khetri Copper Complex

2854. SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether production in sulphuric acid plant of Khetri Copper Complex was stopped for a week or so due to fatal accidents on 13th March, 1976;

(b) if so, the loss of production and action taken against the officers responsible for the same; and

(c) the number of accidents in Khetri Copper Complex during March, 1976 in mines and plants and reasons for these accidents and responsibilities fixed therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD). (a) No, Sir

(b) There was no loss of production on account of the accident and hence the question of taking action against any officer does not arise

(c) During the month of March, 1976 there was one fatal accident in the Sulphuric Acid Plant of Khetri Copper Project. The accident occurred on 13th of March when one junior Technician (Electrical) by mistake opened/touched live panel of 11 KV incoming feeder. As a result he and an apprentice, Electrical Trade, standing beside him, received severe flash burns. The junior Technician (Electrical) died in the hospital on 17th March, 1976. The apprentice Electrical Trade, however, recovered from the accident.

An enquiry on the fatal accident has been instituted. Apart from the