

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Shortage of Qualified Doctors and Nurses in RMY Hospitals**

\* 454. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of qualified doctors and nurses in the army hospitals particularly in the border areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to recruit and post adequate number of doctors and nurses in the military hospitals as also to provide modern equipment of surgery particularly in hospitals in the border areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) There is an overall shortage of doctors in the Army Medical Corps and Nursing Service. There is no shortage in Dental Corps. But all hospitals including those in the border areas are adequately staffed.

(b) The shortage is mainly due to poor response from civilian doctors and nurses because of hazards of military service.

(c) Wide publicity is being given to opportunities for employment/career in Military Medical and Nursing Services through press, radio and periodical visits to Medical Colleges.

Military hospitals, including those located in border areas, are provided with modern and sophisticated equipment for investigation and treatment. The question of improving them is under continuous examination in the light of advances made in the field of medical sciences.

**Allotment of Agricultural Land to Members of Armed forces**

\* 455. SHRI MANI RAM GODARA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether promises were made during the Chinese aggression and Indo-Pak conflict for allotment of agricultural lands to the members of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government up to now;

(c) the number of servicemen, Ex-service-

men and their dependents who have been allotted lands and the total area so far allotted, State-wise; and

(d) the future programme of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). In 1963, all State Governments/Administrations were requested to extend special concessions, including settlement of agricultural land, to ex-servicemen and, specially, to the dependants of Service personnel who were killed in action, and to ex-servicemen. Almost all State Governments/Administrations amended their land settlement procedures and rules and made allotments of land to ex-servicemen individually or co-operative societies of ex-servicemen.

(c) Since settlement of land is made by State Governments under their respective land revenue laws/rules through their local offices, up-to-date information regarding total area of land settled, is not available. The collection of such statistics from the various States within a reasonable period of time is not feasible.

(d) The matter is pursued with the State Governments/Administrations, so that maximum benefits accrue to the ex-servicemen.

**Strike by Workers of Indian Oil Corporation in Cochin**

\* 457. SHRI B. N. REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the strike launched by the workers of Indian Oil Corporation in Cochin area, Kerala State on the 17th May, in support of their demands;

(b) if so, the main demands of the workers; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The two main demands of the striking workers are:

(i) upgradation of status of Cochin town

for purposes of getting an increase in City Compensatory and House Rent Allowances; and

(ii) Cancellation of transfer of certain workers from Ernakulam to other depots in Kerala.

(c) The Indian Oil Corporation are looking into these demands.

#### Plan for the Family Consulting Units in the Universities

\* 460. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan for the family consulting units in the Universities to advise the youth on family life and education;

(b) whether Government have considered the suggestion of Dr. Fonseca, Director, Council of Family Planning on sex education; and

(c) if so, the main suggestions made and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The suggestions of Dr. Fonseca of the Indian Social Institute, which have just been received, will be given due consideration.

#### C. G. H. S. for Pensioners and their Families

\* 463. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 1098 on the 2nd March, 1970 and state the progress made in the Plan to extend the Health Schemes to the pensioners and their families throughout India through C. G. H. S.?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT): The Central Government Health Scheme has been introduced so far only in Delhi, Bombay and Allahabad. In these three places medical facilities under the scheme are available to Central Government pensioners also. The scheme can be introduced only in

cities where there is a substantial concentration of Central Government employees.

It is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to provide medical care to their pensioners.

#### Shortage of Medicines in Rural Areas

\* 464. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUN WALA:  
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of medicines in the rural areas due to reduction in commission under the Drugs Act and the retailers are finding it unremunerative to stock more stocks of medicines; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to mitigate the difficulties of the rural people and to ensure a steady flow of medicines in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir. It is not correct that there is acute shortage of medicines generally in the rural areas due to reduction in trade commission under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order. However, shortages of certain brands of medicines have been reported from certain areas. These shortages are attributable to cause other than reduction in the trade commission.

(b) Steps taken to remove shortages are:

(i) import of additional quantities of bulk drugs through the State Trading Corporation.

(ii) Expansion of indigenous capacity for bulk drugs.

(iii) Encouraging manufacturers to step up production of medicines reported to be in short supply.

Some improvement has taken place during the last month with the arrival of bulk drugs being imported by the State Trading Corporation and further improvement in the situation is expected to take place in the next two to three months.