OLD AGE PENSION

•674. SHRI JAGESHWAR YADAV : SHRI ONKARLAL BOHRA: DR. RANEN SEN :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL WEL-FARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide old age pension to the destitutes;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

MONEY IN CIRCULATION

*675. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present velocity of money circulation in India;

(b) whether it has increased or decreased in 1967; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) 1966-67 is the latest year for which national income data are available, and for that year the income velocity of money circulation (i.e. relationship between national income at current prices and average money supply) works out to 5.21.

(b) Information is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

REORIENTATION OF MEDICAL EDUCA-TION

*676. SHRI D. C. SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVE-LOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the desirability of reorientating the medical education to suit the needs of the people of semi-urban and rural areas has been considered;

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(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH. FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SATYA-NARAYAN SINHA): (a) to (c). The Medical Council of India has prescribed the minimum standards of medical education keeping in view the requirements of the country. Great stress has been laid in the under-graduate medical curriculum on the teaching of Social and Preventive Medicine and training in Rural Health Service. This curriculum covers a period of compulsory rotating internship for 12 months which includes training for 3 months each in medicine, surgery, public health and Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Three months out of the 12 months training are at present required to be spent in a rural area.

The Conference of Deans and Principals of Medical Colleges held in August, 1967, also considered the question of reorienting medical education to suit the needs of rural areas and *inter alia* made the following recommendations:---

- (1) Every medical college should prepare a regular programme for every doctor, senior or junior, to work in a rural centre for a minimum period of three months at a time, to give a lead to the younger doctors.
- (2) In the internship programme, one year's work for Maternity and Child Health and Family Planning in a tural centre should be compulsory. If necessary, the total period of internship could be increased by six months or a year.
- (3) No graduate should be accepted for a post-graduate course or a foreign course unless he has done at least 2 years' service in