

बीचरी बलबीर सिंह : मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि जो रजिस्टर्ड मेडिकल प्रेक्टिशनर्स हैं उनके लिये कोई रिफ्रेशर्स कोर्स, 1, 2 महीने का दिखायेंगे, कोई सेमिनार बैंगरह बुलाया जाय ताकि उनको थोड़ा थोड़ा ट्रेनिंग दे सकें ताकि देहातों में जो काम कर रहे हैं उनको कुछ और ज्यादा वाकफियत हो सके और वह ठीक ढंग से लोगों के स्वास्थ्य की देखभाल कर सकें ?

MR. SPEAKER : They will be useful in reducing the population.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : वर्ष 1976-77 के दौरान सामान्य चिकित्सकों के विषय परिचायक पाठ्यक्रमों का आयोजन करने के लिये राज्य सरकारों प्रादि को केन्द्रीय सहायता हेतु एक योजना शामिल करने का विचार था। यह मेडिकल कालेजों के डीनों और प्रिंसिपलों के अग्रेल 1976 में हुए सम्मेलन में पारित प्रस्ताव के अनुसार था। लेकिन इसका राज्य सरकारों ने स्वागत नहीं किया। फिर भी विचार कर रहे हैं कि किस प्रकार उनका अधिकतम ज्ञान इस चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य में दिया जा सके।

श्री कचकलालहेमराज जैन : अध्यक्ष जी, यह सबाल इतना माफ है और मंत्री जी ने भी जितना बकवच्य दिया है जरा देख लीजिये। इसमें माफ लिखा है कि क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार ने डाक्टरों, विशेषज्ञों, नर्सों और सहायक कर्मचारियों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिये एक संतुलित नीति बनाई है जिससे वे सब मिल कर एक टीम के रूप में कार्य कर सकें, और इस संबंध में मंत्रालय द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है? तो सीधी बात है कि संतुलित नीति तैयार की है कि नहीं? और यदि नहीं, तो कब तक तैयार कर देंगे जिससे सीनें बातें साथ जोड़ी जायें ?

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैंने जो अभी मूल प्रश्न के उत्तर में पढ़ा वह भी एक संतुलित नीति ही थी जिसका विशद विचार हमने रखा है, और माननीय सदस्य ने सुना भी है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह काफी है, और अगर श्रीमन्, चाहें तो और लम्बा जवाब दे सकता हूँ।

E.S.I. Scheme for Rural Workers

*689. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have completed the examination of the possibility of extending the Employees' State Insurance Scheme to rural workers as mentioned in replies to Starred question No. 520 on the 22nd December, 1977 and Unstarred question No. 4945 on the 30th March, 1978; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (Dr. RAM KIRPAL SINHA) : (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : This question relates to the coverage of rural people under the Employees State Insurance scheme. This year the agricultural workers contributed to the nation a record production of 125 million tonnes of food-grains. They also form the bulk of the rural community. In view of all that, will the Government consider giving them some incentive like social security schemes by extending the ESI scheme to the rural masses ?

DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA : We are very much thankful to the rural workers that because of their labour this much of production has been achieved. So far the social security scheme prevailing in the country has been urban-oriented and oriented in the interest of the organised labour. We are now seriously thinking of devising some plan for the rural workers also, but no clear-cut programme has yet taken shape.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : This Government talk all the time of rural development and 40 per cent of their allo-

cations have been given for the development of agriculture and rural areas. The Government say that the matter is still under consideration, which is nothing but showing lip sympathy towards the rural people. I would like to know whether the Government will categorically assure this House that they will constitute a committee to go into the matter and will have a time-bound programme to implement the recommendations of that Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : He said he is evolving a scheme.

DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA : The hon. Member says that we are paying only lip service. That is not a fact. We are feeling it from the very core of our heart that something tangible should be done for the rural workers. As far as the question of constituting a committee is concerned, at the Ministry level we are thinking of devising some plans. Only then some action can be taken.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA : May I know whether the ESI scheme will be extended to plantation workers who are in the rural areas? Where the quantum of medical assistance given by the ESI is more than the medical assistance given by the plantation owners, will extension be considered?

MR. SPEAKER : I think that is outside this question.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : I am sure the Minister is aware of the fact that the rural workers are very much in need of ESI scheme, but it is not provided to them. On the other hand, it is imposed on organised labour, which is already enjoying the medical benefits under bilateral agreements. This is the malady. In this background, will you review the whole enactment and bring a comprehensive scheme before this House as early as possible?

DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA : So far as the allegation of its imposition is concerned, I deny it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : How can you deny it? It is a fact. I objected to its imposition on the workers and I sent a letter to the Minister. Let Shri Varma say whether it is not a fact.

DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA : As far as medical benefits are concerned, it is only after the recommendation of the State Government that we take it to a particular area. So, imposition by the Central Government does not come into the picture.

The hon. Member mentioned about improving the working of the ESI. Yes, we are considering reviewing the functioning of the ESI scheme.

श्री रामवेणी राव : माननीय मंत्री जी ने नेशन के लिये मजदूरी ने जो उपलब्धिया हासिल कराई है—उसके लिये धन्यवाद दिया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय ने जानना चाहता हूँ—एग््रीकल्चर लेबर के लिये ग्र्राप क्या करने जा रहे हैं, उनके लिये ग्र्रापके पास क्या योजनाये है—ताकि वे भी ग्र्रापको अपना धन्यवाद दे सकें ?

डा० राम कृपाल सिंह : एग््रीकल्चर लेबर के लिये भी हमारे पास बहुत सी योजनाये हैं। यदि, अध्यक्ष महोदय, हुकम दे तो मैं डिटेल् में बतला सकता हूँ कि हम क्या-क्या करने जा रहे हैं।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : ESI is a contributory scheme, and those who are covered have to make a contribution to it, and even after payment of the contribution they are not getting the facilities in any respect, medical or any other benefit. They are abusing it. So, while extending it to the rural people, are you going to make it non-contributory for the rural population?

DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA : Only when the scheme takes concrete shape can it be said whether it will be contributory or not.

About the present condition, that they do not get medical benefits and they are abusing etc. I believe that the workers do not abuse it, and it is only an allegation that they abuse the medical benefits.

As far as paucity of medicines and other things hunted at by him are concerned, I can assure him that we are revising the pharmacopoeia also, and we are trying to bring better benefits to them.

Survey by G.S.I. in H. P. for Minerals

*891. SHRI BALAK RAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred question No. 743 on the 17th November, 1977 and state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India carried out surveys for various minerals like limestone, gypsum,