

(c) whether any canteen offering the traditional food items and fruit drinks has actually started operating;

(d) if so, the response from the public;

(e) whether the scheme is proposed to be extended to various departments of Government including the Public Sector Undertakings; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (f) There is no plan to replace the food items/soft drinks in the departmental canteens/hospitals which are already providing traditional and nutritious items. However, Department of ISM & H has advised Ministry/Department in-charge of Shastri Bhawan, Krishi Bhawan, Udyog Bhawan and Nirman Bhawan for propagating natural food through departmental canteens functioning in these buildings for which technical expertise will be provided by the ISM & H.

**Policy for self-financing of medical colleges**

1971. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of self-financing of medical colleges has worked successfully;

(b) if so, the number of such colleges Government intend to open State-wise; and

(c) the number of applications lying pending with his Ministry for opening of new colleges from the State of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Medical Council of India has prescribed minimum standards of medical education and all the medical colleges in the country including self-financing medical colleges have to fulfil these norms. According to Medical Council of India, the policy on allowing self-financing medical colleges has worked successfully.

(b) 'Health' being a State subject, it is for the State Government concerned to decide whether they need a medical college. Central Government has no scheme to open medical colleges in the State sector.

(c) A letter of Intent for establishment of a new college by Sitara Seva Trust, Bharuch has been given. The Trust has not so far fulfilled the terms and conditions of Letter of Intent to enable to consider for issuing formal sanction by the Government. Permission for establishment of the college depends on fulfilment of the conditions of Letter of Intent and recommendations of Medical Council of India thereon.

**Proposal for construction of hospital at Rajouri**

1972. MIRZA ABDUL RASHID: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajouri District Headquarters which is the Central point of more than ten lakh population of Rajouri and Poonch Border Areas lacks medical facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a proposal for construction of two hundred bed hospital at Rajouri is included in the Tenth Five Year Plan, funded by the Centre; and

(c) if so, by when it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India, such information is not available with this Ministry.

(b) and (c) On the request of Mirza Abdul Rashid, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha regarding establishment of as 100 bedded hospital at Rajouri as a Central Government project, this Ministry has recommended to the Planning Commission to consider its implementation during Tenth Five Year Plan. The Planning Commission has informed this Ministry on 1.2.2002 that it has not received any proposal from Government of Jammu and Kashmir in this regard. This Ministry has requested the Government of Jammu and Kashmir on 26.02.2002 to send a project proposal to the Planning Commission under intimation to this Ministry. No information has since been received from the Government of Jammu and Kashmir in this regard.