

[10 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

Vacant posts of Homoeopathic Pharmacists in CGHS

1028. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) since when the posts of homoeopathic pharmacists in CGHS reserved for OBCs, are lying vacant;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when Government propose to fill all these posts reserved for OBCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Only one post in CGHS Delhi of Homoeopathic Pharmacist reserved for OBCs has fallen vacant on 8.6.1999 due to the death of its incumbent. Action has already been initiated to fill it.

No post of Homoeopathic Pharmacist is lying vacant outside Delhi.

Political Commitment Towards Population Control

1029. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while releasing the UN report on the State of World Population, United Nations Population Fund representative, Michael Vlassoff, was reported to have observed that lack of firm political commitment was the most important reason for the population control in India;

(b) whether the Government of India share this view and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to arrest the alarming rise in India's population, which was posing a huge challenge to our development and growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) In the speech of Dr. Michael Vlassoff, UNFPA representative for India, on 22nd September, 1999 while releasing State of the World Population Report 1999, there is no mention of lack of political commitment or otherwise.

(c) The national effort for Family Welfare has now been substantially re-organised and strengthened with a view to arresting population growth. The following schemes are being implemented :

- (i) An integrated and holistic programme of Reproductive and Child Health that include Maternal health, Child Health and Contraception issues launched in 1997;
- (ii) Information, Education and Communication Programme to create awareness about the benefits of small family;
- (iii) Assistance to States/UTs to maintain certain Family Welfare infrastructure;
- (iv) Assistance to Voluntary Organisations and NGOs for implementing family welfare programmes.

Closing down of Fake Medical Institutions

†1030. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any concrete steps to close down hundreds of fake medical and other educational institutions totally in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of proposed action by Government and by when it would be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The University Grants Commission has set up a Malpractices Cell in Education to deal with matters relating to the existence/functioning of fake universities in the country. The U.G.C. has informed that they are not aware of existence of fake medical colleges in Delhi. However, the following four fake universities are functioning in Delhi in contravention of the U.G.C. Act, 1956:—

(1) Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Jagat Puri, Delhi.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.