

**Emphasis on opening of CGHS Homoeopathy Units in Delhi**

4190. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due attention and emphasis are not being given by Government to opening of CGHS Homoeopathic units in Delhi for the last twelve years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ninth Five Year Plan has been finalised and some provisions has been made for opening of some units under Homoeopathic system of Medicine in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) Due attention and emphasis for opening of CGHS Homoeopathic Units in Delhi is being given by the Government subject to fulfilment of conditions of requirement, feasibility, financial resources and manpower availability.

(c) and (d) Some proposals for opening of Homoeopathic Units under CGHS, Delhi have been included in the Ninth Five Year Plan which has not been finalised so far.

**Health Care Programme for poor School Children**

4191. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any new proposal for starting health care programme for poor school children in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A Special School Health Check-up Scheme for primary school students was taken up in all States/Union territories on pilot basis during 1996-97 in the form of a special campaign. The scheme has since been discontinued as a centrally funded scheme. Some State Governments are implementing their own school health schemes by using State funds.

**Implementation of Notification Prohibiting Sale of Salt**

4192. SHRI N.R. DASARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Minister has written letters to certain Chief Ministers requesting for strict implementation of his ministry's notification dated 27th November, 1997 prohibiting the sale of common salt for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh etc. have expressed their resentment against this order; and

(d) if so, the reasons they have mentioned and the Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) The Union Health Minister had written a letter to the Chief Ministers of States/Union Territories on May 12, 1998 requesting them to ensure that adequate production of iodized salt is encouraged in their States/UTs and further steps are taken to ensure streamlined distribution and free

availability of iodated salt at reasonable prices to the people, particularly those living in the remote and difficult areas.

(c) and (d) While the Govt. of Kerala has taken the position that while popularising the use of iodised salt the use of common salt should not be prohibited in view of the cost factor, no response has been received from Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. However, the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has already made it compulsory to sell iodised salt only in those areas where Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) is a problem. No resentment has been expressed by the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal while acknowledging the letter of the Union Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare. The notification has been temporarily stayed by the High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

#### Improvement of Health Services in Assam

4193. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of PM's declaration (October 1996) and recommendations of Shukla Commission in regard to improvement of Health Services in Assam;

(b) the details of specific proposals received so far from the Government of Assam with projected outlay;

(c) action taken by Government, progress of work, allocation made and commission schedule proposed; and

(d) the number of proposals pending for clearance with the reasons for delay in such clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) (I) Prime Minister's statement on 26.10.96 at Guwahati contains the following important new

initiatives so far as improvement of health services in Assam is concerned;

- (i) Appointment of High Level Commission to examine the gaps in the basic minimum services & infrastructure needs in the North Eastern States including Assam and to suggest policies, programmes and found requirements to bridge the gaps.
- (ii) All Central Ministries/ Departments to earmark at least 10% Central resources of their budget for specific programmes in the North Eastern States.
- (iii) Upgradation of Guwahati Medical College, Assam.

(a) (II) As per para (i) above, a High Commission was appointed in November, 1996 under the Chairmanship of Shri S.P. Shukla, Member, Planning Commission, main recommendations one of the Commission on the improvements in health sector in Assam are as follows:

- (i) Creation of infrastructure in the primary health sector with advance action for recruitment of trained and qualified persons to use to facilities created without delay.
- (ii) The State Governments to raise resources to the extent of 15% of the allocation made by the Planning Commission for Basic Minimum Services (BMS). (This recommendation was followed while formulating the State Plans for 1996-97).
- (iii) Publication of full details about the schemes to be taken up, their location, estimated expenditure, and those responsible for the works to ensure transparency, greater accountability and prevent leakage.
- (iv) An effective monitoring system from the block up to state