

(c) Under the New Education the Programme of Non-formal Education was reorganised and expanded in 1987. To provide education of a quality comparable to that of formal schools to school drop-outs, working children, girls who cannot attend whole-day schools and children from habitations without schools, the programme emphasises organisational flexibility, relevance of curriculum, diversity in learning activities to relate them to the learner's needs, and decentralisation of management. The selection of local, committed persons, preferably women as instructors; intensive training; close supervision by part-time trained local youth; organisation of centres into projects in compact and contiguous areas easily amenable to supervision and monitoring; strengthening of district and state levels; involvement of voluntary agencies and scope for continuing education are some of the other features of the non-formal education programme.

**Dilapidated condition of House of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee etc.**

2620. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ancestral houses of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekanand and Raja Ram Mohan Roy in West Bengal are in dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to acquire and to preserve these houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government of West Bengal which is primarily concerned with the matter. It

will be laid on the Table of the House, when received.

2621. [Transferred to the 23rd August, 1988].

### **Development of Indigenous System of Medicine**

2622. PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develop the Indigenous System of Medicine in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have evoked any special machinery to distribute the indigenous drugs to the masses in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The National Health Policy lays emphasis on the development of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy ensuring that each system develops fully and according to its genius.

The Government have taken various steps to develop these systems by way of improving the quality of education, laying of Pharmacopoeial standards of drugs and their quality control; Research activities through various Research Councils, etc. It is the endeavour to involve Practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in Primary Health Care and Family Welfare Programmes. The State Governments have been requested to take specific measures in this regard. The development of Medicinal Plants, particularly those commonly used in Indian drugs, is another area on which emphasis is being laid.

(c) Health being a State subject, each State Government has developed its own System for providing medical care (including drugs or indigenous