

Central Schools in Himachal Pradesh

1673. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Central schools in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to open more such schools in that State during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, the year-wise break-up thereof and if not, the reasons therefor? ..

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Eight.

(b) and (c) The locations for new Kendriya Vidyalayas (Central Schools) are decided by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan at the commencement of the academic session. It is not possible to indicate at this stage the places where the Kendriya Vidyalayas will be opened during the next five years.

Pharmacy Act, 1948

1674. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) since when Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 is in force;

(b) the names of States which are enforcing the above Section of the Act; and

(c) what are the reasons that this Section is not being enforced uniformly in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 provides for prohibition of compounding, preparing, mixing or dispensing of any medicines by any person other than a registered pharmacist or

after such date as the state government may notify in the official gazette. It further provides that where no such date is notified by the State Government, the prohibition would operate from 1st September, 1984. Thus this statutory provision has come into effect in all the States and Union Territories from 1st September, 1984, excepting the State of West Bengal which has notified 1st September, 1986 as the date from which this provision would be operative in that state.

Compensation claims pending with Railways

1675. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims for compensation received by the railways in India during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 zone wise;

(b) the number of claims settled during the same period together with the amount of compensation paid; and

(c) the number of claims pending with the railways for finalisation and by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Pharmacists in Government Hospitals

1676. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state that the number of pharmacists working in various Central Government hospitals and the Central Government Health Services who have yet to be given selection grade according to the Third Pay Commission's recommendations and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): All the eligible Pharmacists working in the various Central Government Hospitals have been given selection grade excepting the Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where the case of one Pharmacist is under consideration. Eligible Pharmacists of the Central Government Health Scheme are being given the Selection Grade shortly.

Indo-UK Agreement on Railway Projects

1677. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-UK agreement for railway projects has been signed in April, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No Indo-U.K. Pact for provision of financial assistance in respect of any Railway Project has been signed in April, 1985.

Bhopal gas victims

†1677-A. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 33-A given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st January, 1985 and state:

(a) how many Bhopal gas victims were discharged after first aid, how many suffered permanent disability and how many died in the gas tragedy as on the 30th April, 1985;

(b) what is the amount of compensation paid so far to the victims/next of kin and the estimated amount yet to be paid; and

†Previously Unstarred Question No. 1209, transferred from the 13th May, 1985.

(c) what are the detailed results of the post-mortem and other studies carried out on the gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the total number of patients treated in Bhopal hospitals is 2,00,000 of which 11,500 were critically ill. According to the figures collected by State Government from hospitals, mortuaries, cremation grounds and burial grounds (also including the number of persons who had died in other districts) the number of dead persons is about 1430.

(b) According to the information received from the State Government a sum of Rs. 100.58 lakh has so far been distributed as compensation and the estimated expenditure on relief and rehabilitation is about Rs. 8 crores which is expected to go up further.

(c) The gross autopsy findings were practically the same in several hundred of post-mortems that were carried out from 3rd December, 1984 onwards. The details of the changes seen in the several affected organs such as the lungs, respiratory tract, the brain and the abdominal viscera would be available from the Director, Medical-Legal Institute, Bhopal. Briefly, it may be mentioned that the most outstanding feature was the cherry red discolouration of the blood most prominently seen in the lungs but noticed in other viscera as well. Microscopically in several autopsies carried by the Medical-Legal Institute and the Department of Pathology of the Gandhi Medical College and the Institute of Pathology of the I.C.M.R., New Delhi, revealed that in addition to the consistent gross pathological findings there was evidence of congestion and inflammation of the trachea and the bronchi with ulcerative changes, waterlogging of the lungs and the alveoli filled with albuminous or