

Derecognition of Indian Medical Council

363. DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

SHRI INDERA DEEP SINHA :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA :

SHRI B. D. BARMAN :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the General Medical Council of the World has threatened derecognition of the Indian Medical Council if it "allows the lowering of the standards of medical education"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE):

(a) and (b) As far as Government of India are aware there is no organisation known as the General Medical Council of the World. However, there is a General Medical Council in United Kingdom and Government are not aware of any proposal by that Council to derecognise the Indian medical qualifications.

Use of Agricultural Land for Cash Crops and for Constructing Buildings

364. DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural land in most of the States is being diverted for use into cash crops and also for constructing buildings; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the measures taken by the Central Government to prevent such conversion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATIL) : (a) and (b) There does not appear to be any discernible shift of area from food to cash crops; the all-India areas

under food-grains and cash crops since 1969-70, as given below, show only a mixed trend.

(Area in million hectares)

Year	Area Under food-grains	Area under cash crops (includes five major oil-seeds, sugar cane, cotton, jute, mesta & tobacco)
1969-70	123.57	26.82
1970-71	124.32	27.17
1971-72	122.62	27.79
1972-73	119.28	26.32
1973-74	126.13	27.02

It will be seen that during 1970-71, there was an increase in area both under food-grains and cash crops as compared to the preceding year. During 1971-72, while the area under foodgrains declined, that under cash crops registered a slight increase. The year 1972-73 was characterised by a serious drought in large parts of the country and areas under both foodgrains and cash crops fall. During 1973-74, the areas under both foodgrains and cash crops registered increases over the preceding year. While the area under foodgrains was the highest in this year, that under commercial crops was less than the level reached in 1971-72.

Indo-U.S. Committee for Cultural Cooperation

365. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :

SHRI HIMMAT SINH :

SHRI J. S. ANAND :

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :

SHRI L. MAHAPATRO :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared