

श्री पा० ना० राजभोज : क्या माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली में ऐसी कितने केन्द्र हैं जहाँ कि दाइयों को शिक्षा मिल सकती है और अभी उनमें कितनी दाइयाँ हैं जो कि ट्रेनिंग ले रही हैं ।

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I have not got information about the details but I can pass it on to the hon. Member and supply it to the House.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Sir, this is an age of literacy. Medical knowledge and directions for use of appliances appear in a written form and have to be read and followed. May I know whether these *Dais* are literate or illiterate and also whether they have any educational qualifications?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I should think that a substantial number of them are illiterate.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: How do you expect them to be trained in the modern methods of approach to these cases?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Because we know the methods of giving training to people who do not understand. Ours is a practical training. We tell them what is septic, what is anti-septic and all that. After the refresher course, they are wiser than they were before.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Is it not necessary, Sir, that they should have at least literacy standards to deal with this subject?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think it is always desirable to have literacy standards but the very essence of this scheme is this: It is not possible for us to make available an adequate number of trained midwives. Therefore, the scheme is to take in the *Dais* who are already in the field, give them useful training—whether they are literate or not literate; we do not have that

condition for purposes of this training—and to send them back and we find that they are more efficient than before.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA: Have the Government any comprehensive scheme to train *Dais* so that later on, in the latter half of the Second Plan and in the Third Plan, they can supply trained *Dais* to all the blocks and areas under the Community Project?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, the idea is to really provide the country with sufficient number of trained midwives. The requirements are more than what we can make available to the country and so the *Dais* or the midwives that are there already in the field—these people are not very well instructed in the matters of modern methods—are taken up for this course of training in modern methods.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Just now the hon. Minister was pleased to tell us that no educational standards are needed. May I know the duration of the training that the Government gives because, half knowledge will prove more dangerous?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Subject to correction, Sir, I think it is about six months.

SELECTION OF ASSISTANT PERSONNEL OFFICERS ON THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY

\*399. SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from the employees of the South Eastern Railway in regard to selection of Assistant Personnel Officers and if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.