

(a) what is the proportion of the amount allocated for research in Ayurvedic Medicine as compared to that for Modern Medicine under the Second Five Year Plan;

(b) which are the places where research in Ayurvedic Medicine is being carried on at present; and

(c) whether any hospital beds are set apart for experimenting with these drugs after trying them on guinea pigs?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJ-KUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) (i) Ayurveda—Rs. 60.50 lakhs.

(ii) Indian Council of Medical Research—Rs. 412.0 lakhs.

The research on indigenous medicine is not excluded from the purview of the Indian Council of Medical Research allotment, provided suitable schemes are forthcoming. These amounts do not include allocations made in State plans for the purpose.

- (b) (1) Board of Research in Ayurveda, Bombay.
- (2) Ayurvedic College, Gauhati.
- (3) Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Joginder-nagar (H.P.).
- (4) Government College of Indigenous Medicine, Madras.
- (5) Ayurvedic College Banaras Hindu University, Banaras.
- (6) Jhansi Ayurvedic University, Jhansi.
- (7) Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya Poona.
- (8) Gopabandhu Ayurvedic Vidya-pitha, Puri.
- (9) Universal Health Institute, Bombay.
- (10) Indian Drugs Research, Institute, Poona.
- (11) Central Institute of Research in Indigenous Systems of Medicine, Jamnagar.

(c) There are 40 beds at the Central Institute of Research in Indigenous Systems of Medicine, Jamnagar for carrying out experiments on "Pandu" disease. As regards other institutions, information is not readily available.

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Provision is being made for grants to four centres of 20 beds each for research in Ayurveda.

Presumably the reference to trial on 'guinea pigs' means preliminary experimentation along scientific lines including pharmacological and toxicity tests on animals before experimenting on human beings. Such preliminary tests will depend on the medicines used in experimentation and may be tried as a matter of course by the Ayurvedic Physicians as and when necessary.

REFERENCES TO THE LATE DR. H. C. MOOKERJEE

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): Hon. Members must have heard with deep sorrow the sad news of the sudden death of Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, Governor of West Bengal. He was a little indisposed for about a week and nobody knew that the end was so near. He passed away at about 5 in the afternoon yesterday. Dr. Mookerjee was an eminent scholar and educationist. He was a distinguished nationalist and patriot and also a well known philanthropist. He gave away all his savings amounting to about Rs. 10 lakhs to the Calcutta University and out of the salary that he received as Governor he retained for himself only Rs. 500 per month and he gave the rest to the University for the benefit of needy students. He was a member of the Legislature in United Bengal and he was a member of our Constituent Assembly almost throughout from 1947 onwards. He fought against the proposal for reservation of seats for Christians and he wanted to serve the people of India as equal citizens without having any special safeguards. He had faith in himself, in his community and in his country. He worked throughout as a true servant of the people and whichever position he occupied he filled it with distinction. It is a matter of deep regret to us that such a soul should have passed away. I would request you to convey to his widow the heartfelt sympathy of this House.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh): May I know whether the Home Minister has also proposed that the House should adjourn as a mark of respect to Dr. Mookerjee? He was a member of the Constituent Assembly; but he was something more than that. He

[Shri H. N. Kunzru]

was also the Vice-President of the Constituent Assembly and for a long time he presided over the Assembly during the absence of the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad. I think it is highly desirable that we should pay our tribute of respect to the memory of such a man by adjourning today.

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT:

Sir, I was myself going to suggest that the House might adjourn for the day after you had made your reference and I entirely agree with what Dr. Kunzru says.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I should like to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House and Dr. Kunzru. I had known Dr. Mookerjee for nearly forty years as a member of the Calcutta University and as a member of the Constituent Assembly. Dr. Kunzru referred to the fact that he served as the Vice-President of the Constituent Assembly also. After that he became the Governor of Bengal. Whatever high offices he held they did not affect his simplicity of manners and his kindness of disposition. Already reference has been made to the gifts he made to the Calcutta University. He used the great prestige which he had as Governor for raising funds for the relief of the sick and the suffering. That is also well known. He was a Christian, a true liberal Christian who had great respect for other religions and for the heritage of this great country. Wherever his influence was felt, he fought for communal harmony and national solidarity. I shall certainly convey the feelings of this House to Mrs. Mookerjee and as a token of our sorrow, let us stand up for two minutes now.

After Mr. Krishna Menon makes his statement, the House will stand adjourned till eleven o'clock tomorrow.

(The House then stood in silence for two minutes.)

STATEMENT ON SUEZ CANAL QUESTION

THE MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): Mr. Chairman, with your gracious consent and on behalf of the Prime Minister for External Affairs, I beg to make

the following statement on the Suez Canal question just now.

On the 26th of July President Nasser announced in a speech at Alexandria that the nationalisation of the Suez Canal Company had been effected. The control of the offices of the company at Port Said, Ismailia, Suez and Cairo was taken over by the Egyptian Government following the promulgation of the nationalisation law by Presidential decree.

The assets and obligations of the company were taken over by the State. The law provides for compensation to shareholders at the market value of shares as on the day preceding nationalisation. Such compensation is to be paid after the State has taken delivery of all the assets and properties of the company.

The management of the Suez Canal traffic service was entrusted to an independent authority, with an independent budget and all powers, without being subject to Government rules and regulations.

The funds and assets of the nationalised company were frozen. The new authority was under obligation to retain the existing personnel who, in turn, were not to relinquish their posts without permission. The decree also provides for enforcement of the law and penalties attaching to breaches thereof.

The announcement has had worldwide repercussions. A grave crisis, which if not resolved peacefully, can lead to conflict, the extent and effects of which it is not easy to assess, has developed. In this crisis, the foremost consideration must be to strike for a calmer atmosphere and a rational outlook. When passions dominate, the real issues recede into the background, or are viewed or presented so as to emphasise the differences between the disputants and to rouse or feed the passions already engendered.

It is not easy for anyone, much less for the disputants, to escape this tragic involvement, and even for others, total objectivity is not possible. In crisis of this kind we deal not merely with the issue in dispute, but we witness the upsurge and conflict of mighty forces.

So, we have to deal with the problem as it confronts us or be overwhelmed by it. It is appropriate, therefore, to glance at the facts and the history of this problem.