

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

260. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration any proposal for grant of Central subsidy to the State Governments for establishing medical colleges;

(b)* if so, the number of medical colleges for the establishment of which the proposal has been made; and

(c) the estimated expenditure ^{which} with Government will have to incur if the proposal is accepted?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJ-KUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) Yes.

(b) The number will be decided after a decision has been taken on (a) above.

(c) Does not arise at present.

LABOUR AMENITIES IN GOVERNMENT CONCERNS

261. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up a committee to evolve a standard of labour amenities in Government concerns;

(b) whether the Planning Commission is being consulted in this matter; and

(c) when this committee will be set up?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI): (a), (b) and (c). The question of evolving a standard of labour amenities in Government concerns is under consideration in consultation with the Planning

Commission and the Ministries of the Government of India.

RECRUITMENT OF TELEPHONE OPERATORS

262. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether only unmarried women are eligible for employment as telephone operators; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that led Government to impose this condition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) No. There is no discrimination between married and unmarried women.

(b) Does not arise.

SPECIAL ALLOWANCE FOR TELEPHONE WORKERS

263. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under their consideration any proposal to sanction special allowance to telephone line-men and operators working in remote or difficult areas;

(b) if so, for how long the matter has been under the consideration of Government; and

(c) what is the special allowance proposed for (i) line-men, and (ii) operators?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) There is a proposal to sanction special allowance to the staff working in remote localities. This would be applicable to all the P. & T. staff including line-men and Telephone operators when sanctioned. In addition, a proposal is under examination in regard to an allowance to line-men working in difficult areas.