

(c) whether there is any basis for issuing valuable or special medicines to the beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). A comprehensive formulary has been drawn up to regulate the issue of medicines under the C.H.S. Scheme. The formulary preparations are divided into the specialist and the general lists. While the latter can be prescribed by the dispensary doctors, the former are issued on the prescription of the specialists.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the Government have received any complaints about discrimination in giving medicines to low paid staff and high paid staff?

Dr. D. S. Raju: There is no such discrimination.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is always irregular and short supply of medicines in some of the C.H.S. dispensaries like Vinaynagar and other places?

Dr. D. S. Raju: There is occasionally some short supply, but when it is brought to the notice of the Government it is made good.

Shri S. C. Samanta: When a patient is sent to the hospital through a C.H.S. dispensary, may I know whether the valuable medicines and other things are borne by Government?

Dr. D. S. Raju: Yes, Sir; the whole treatment is borne by the Government.

Shri Tyagi: Is any special allowance given to those doctors who pay private visits to patients when called during off-times particularly during night?

Dr. D. S. Raju: No compensation is allowed.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether it is not a fact that even the ordinary medicines—leave aside the important and costly medi-

cines—are always in short supply in the C.H.S. dispensaries and one has got to wait for three days for the indent to be made and medicines supplied? May I know why it is so?

Dr. D. S. Raju: The information given by the hon. Member is not correct.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: It is correct.

Dr. D. S. Raju: There is no such delay. Patients need not have to wait for three days for getting ordinary medicines. As soon as a medicine is prescribed, it is given immediately within a few hours. Only in the case of special medicines which are costly and toxic it takes some time because they have to be given by specialists.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Arising out of answer to part (c) of the question, may I know what is the basis on which decisions are taken to allocate some medicines to be prescribed by ordinary doctors and some to be prescribed by experts? Is it done on the basis of price or utility?

Dr. D. S. Raju: Price is not the criterion. If the dispensary doctor thinks that a case is serious and it should be seen by a specialist, the specialist will examine that case and prescribe the medicine.

श्री: चिन्ति विद्मः क्या यह सही नहीं है कि रविवार को अक्सर इन सी एच एस डिस्पेन्सरीज में डाक्टर नहीं आत हैं और पेशेंट्स को बड़ी तकलीफ होती है ?

Dr. D. S. Raju: It is not true that on Sundays he comes late. But sometimes he has to pay visits to the patients at their residences and on such occasions he is late.

Tractors for Cultivation

*1248. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of tractors has been on the increase or on the decrease in the country; and

(b) what incentives are being given to the farmers to gradually switch over to tractors?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) It is on the increase. In 1956, the number of Tractors in the country was about 21,000. In 1961, it was 34,000.

(b) No deliberate effort is being made by the Government of India to make the farmers switch over to the tracts. However, the following incentives are given to the farmers in the interests of food production generally:—

- (i) Agricultural tractors are exempted from customs and excise duties.
- (ii) In most of the State, agricultural tractors are exempted from local taxes, viz., Sales Tax, etc.
- (iii) Some of the State Governments have been giving tac-cavi loans to the farmers for purchase of tractors and other agricultural machinery. Some have schemes for hiring out tractors to ryots.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether Government examined the reasons for the agricultural countries not switching over to tractor cultivation so swiftly?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It is so because they are used to the traditional methods of farming. Also, tractors are costly and not within the competence of the ordinary farmers to switch over to tractor farming so easily.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Is it a fact that most of the tractors that are available in the country are in the hospitals because of spare-parts not being available?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As I said, the number of tractors in use has increased from 21,000 to 34,000 from

1956 to 1961. May be some tractors are out of use, but efforts will be made to see that they are put to use.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: What is the effect of the prolonged use of tractors so far as the fertility of the soil is concerned?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It may be that in certain areas tractor farming might have made the soil less fertile, but in majority of the areas tractors are quite suitable.

डा० गोविन्द दास : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने ट्रैक्टरों की जो संख्या बताई है, उसमें से कितने ट्रैक्टर सरकारी जो भिन्न भिन्न फार्म हैं, उनमें काम में आते हैं और कितने ट्रैक्टर किसानों के काम में आते हैं ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : जो संख्या मैंने बताई वह सारी संख्या किसानों के काम की है ।

Shri P. R. Patel: If tractors are used for agriculture, may I know whether we can do away with bullocks so that they can be used elsewhere?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It is not so easy to do away with bullocks because there are only 34,000 tractors in the country at present and the number of agricultural families is about six crores. So, it would not be possible.

Shri P. R. Patel: My question has not been answered. If we use tractors for ploughing, I want to know whether bullocks would be necessary for other agriculture services.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As I said before, it is not easy to do away with bullocks. As the hon. Member might be aware, we are short of bullocks to the extent of one crores. So, there is no question of doing away with bullocks. Our effort will be to harness both tractors and bullocks.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that Government was impressed with the baby tractors that

were exhibited in the U.S. Pavilion at the National Agricultural Fair in Calcutta last year and, if so, whether Government have explored the possibility of introducing baby tractors in this country?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, we have.

Shri Nath Pai: That "Yes" is rather mysterious.

Mr. Speaker: They say they have been impressed.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, we are very much impressed.

Dr. B. N. Singh: Do Government think that the tractor scheme will ever succeed in India where the farms are small holdings where tractors cannot be economically used?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There is a programme for manufacturing small tractors. Then, there is another aspect. By and by, there will be bigger holdings when farmers will get combined into co-operatives.

Shri M. K. Kumaran: May I know whether the recommendation made by the Conference on Improved Agricultural Implements that the Extension Blocks should have their own workshops is being implemented?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That programme is being implemented. The hon. Member might be interested to know that very good workshops are going to be established in each intensive agricultural district.

Panchayati Raj in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan

1249. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan which were in the vanguard in the matter of Panchayati Raj have given second thoughts to the matter in the light of their experience.

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at by these States; and

(c) the programme, if any, drawn up by those States, to advance and to strengthen Panchayati Raj institutions in these States?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Does not arise. It may, however, be added that Panchayati Raj is a new and dynamic programme and both at the Centre and in the States there is a continuous study and thinking on the problems that are thrown up with a view to overcome difficulties and make Panchayati Raj effective and efficient.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: To what extent were Panchayati Raj institutions involved in party politics in the last General Elections and what lessons have been derived from that or have Government shut their eyes to that?

Shri B. S. Murthy: General Elections have just taken place it requires a thorough study. If the hon. Member has got any information, he can pass it on to us.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Much better than I have the hon. Minister of Community Development himself has personal experience and information on this.

Shri Tyagi: That was not a happy experience.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I say...

Mr. Speaker: That is a comparison of opinions and who has the better opinion.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that very recently a Senior District Officers' Conference in which all the Collectors and District Magistrates were included was held in which there was criticism of Panchayati Raj