

centres will be completed in March, 1979. It is proposed to expand the scheme in October, 1978 subject to its evaluation and review.

**Training to Village Level Workers**

676. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of training given to the Village Level Worker under the Rural Medicare Scheme;

(b) whether Government have given instructions to ensure that these workers should concentrate more on prevention aspects like personal and environmental hygiene which would go a long way toward off diseases; and

(c) if so, the nature of such instructions and the extent to which such instructions have been complied with in actual practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) In three months training course under the CHW Scheme the trainees are taught the fundamentals of health sciences, measures for maintaining health, hygiene, treatment of common ailments, role of immunisation in disease prevention, maternity and child care, first aid etc. They would also be given training in traditional systems and yogic methods of maintaining physical fitness.

(b) and (c). Yes. These workers will primarily help the community in prevention of diseases and promotion of their health and will render only elementary curative services for minor ailments. They will act as change agents for health and Family Welfare. The degree of understanding of and compliance with the instructions is generally satisfactory.

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**Non-Functioning of Telephone Exchange at Mayuram, Tamil Nadu**

677. SHRI V. S. ELANCHEZHIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone exchange at Mayuram, Tanjavur District, Tamil Nadu is not working properly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether defective batteries is one of the reasons; and

(d) the steps taken to rectify them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir, the exchange is working properly.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir, the batteries are in good condition.

(d) Does not arise.

**Import of Coking Coal and Steel**

678. SHRI P. S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coking Coal and steel has been imported or is proposed to be imported;

(b) if so, the quantity imported so far and the quantity proposed to be imported; and

(c) the reasons for using valuable foreign exchange for this purpose when India produces enough coal and steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). There has been no import of coking coal so far. It is, however, proposed to import about one million tonnes of coking coal over a period of 12 months.