

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) and (b). No formal proposal from the Government of Fiji for providing assistance on matters of Health and allied services in that Island has been received. The Government of Fiji have however, been asking for the services of some doctors from time to time, which are being made available to them.

(c) The recent visit of the Fijian Health Minister to India was private. The discussions held between the two Health Ministers were very cordial and the Union Health Minister stated that whatever help was required by the Government of Fiji in the field of health would be made available by the Government of India.

A one man delegation from Fiji visited New Delhi in January, 1974 and selected 22 Doctors for appointment in that Island. They also selected five other Doctors to be kept on the waiting list. 17 doctors have received their offers of appointment from the Government of Fiji out of whom 11 have accepted the offers so far. They are now in the process of completing their formalities for their departure to Fiji. Two doctors have already joined in Fiji.

T B. among Mica Mine Workers

1995 **SHRI DHAMANKAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of T.B. among the workers in Mica Mines in Gudur (A.P) are as high as 40 per cent;

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to provide health services to miners in Mica Mines;

(c) whether any assessment of incidents of T.B. among the mine workers in other parts of the country has been made/proposed; and

(d) the measures envisaged to provide better medical care to the miners in the Mica Mines?

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The incident of T.B. and allied pulmonary diseases is reported to be about 40 per cent among the mica mine workers in the State of Andhra Pradesh,

(b) to (d). The Mica Mines Labour Welfare Organisation constituted under Mica Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946 is endeavouring to provide maximum facilities for treatment to the workers and their dependents suffering from T.B.

T.B. Hospitals and clinics have been set up at Karma (Bihar) and a T.B. Ward is attached to the Central Hospital, Kalichedu. Andhra Pradesh. A ward of 10 beds has also been earmarked for T.B. patients at the Central Hospital, Gangapur, Rajasthan. For providing sanatorium line of treatment to mica workers and their dependents, the scheme for reservation of beds at different T.B. Sanatoria is in existence.

With a view to providing treatment facilities to the patients at places nearest to their dwellings and for those who could not get admission either in the T.B. Clinics/Hospitals of the Fund or at the beds reserved at different sanatoria, the Domiciliary Treatment Scheme is in vogue.

As regards the assessment of incident of TB among the mine workers in other parts of the country, a survey is being conducted in Rajasthan.

Compilation of a New Series of consumer price index numbers

1996. **SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated action in compiling a new series of consumer price-index numbers for industrial workers based on the latest consumption pattern; and