

for determining backwardness for the purposes of their schemes. States can however follow their own criteria in respect of the schemes financed by them, and the Government of India do not interfere in the policies pursued by the State Governments in this regard.

Loktak Lake Scheme (Manipur)

2079. Shri Rishang Keishing : Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Manipur have proposed a multipurpose scheme for the Loktak Lake ;

(b) if so, whether the Central Water and Power Commission have investigated and ascertained the feasibility of the scheme ;

(c) if so, the broad features thereof;

(d) the estimated cost of the scheme and

(e) the time by which the scheme will be taken up and completed?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) Yes.

* (b) The investigations, which are being conducted by the Manipur Government in consultation with the Central Water & Power Commission, are still in progress.

(c) to (e). Do not arise at present

Pre-Medical and M.B.B.S. Courses

2080. Shri Rishang Keishing : Will the Minister of **Health and Family Planning** be pleased to state :

(a) the States/the Union Territories/ the areas for which seats in Pre-Medical and the M.B.B.S. courses have to be arranged by the Central Government.

(b) the number of applications received and candidates selected from each of States/

Union Territories/areas mentioned in point (a) above for the two Courses, for the current year;

(c) how far Government are satisfied with the number of available seats as compared to the need of the areas; and

(d) the measures Government contemplate to take to deal with the requirements of the areas?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar) : (a) Government of India make arrangements for reservation of seats in different States for students belonging to Union Territories having no Medical Colleges viz. Manipur, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Laccadive Islands, N.E.F.A., Nagaland and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and the State of Jammu and Kashmir. A Medical College has been started in Jammu & Kashmir and recently at Simla but some candidates belonging to Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh are still being placed in other Medical Colleges.

(b) The information is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6754/56].

(c) & (d). The number of applications for admission is in excess of the number of seats available. In order to meet the increasing demand for admission to Medical Colleges and to meet the manpower requirements of qualified medical doctors, it is proposed to establish 20 to 25 new medical colleges in the country during the Fourth Five Year Plan. This Ministry has also written to various State Governments/ Union Territories to expand as quickly as possible the admission capacity of the existing Medical Colleges under the Emergency Expansion Scheme, wherever it is possible to do so without sacrificing the quality of medical education and training