

issued regarding the singing of the National Song.

[*Translation*]

Preservation of Arabic & Persian Literature

*171. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions set up for preserving Arabic and persian ancient literature and records, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government provide adequate financial assistance to these institutions;

(c) whether the Government have received any offer of financial assistance in this regard from abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Rampur Raza Library in Uttar Pradesh and the Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library in Patna Bihar are the two institutions which are preserving Arabic and Persian literature and records and are Funded fully by the Government of India. There are other institutions either under the control of the State Governments or managed by private organisations preserving Arabic and Persian literature are records.

(b) The Rampur Raza Library and the Khuda Baksh Library are fully funded by the Government of India. Applications received from other institutions are financed adequately under the existing scheme by the National Archives of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[*English*]

Meeting of Population Growth

*172. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convene a meeting of adherents of different religions to discuss the need to control population growth and seek their co-operation to achieve the goal;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be convened; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR):

(a) to (c). The National Family Welfare Programme is being implemented with the willing participation of different sections of our society. It is our endeavour to impart greater thrust and communication efforts. With this objective, a Draft Action Plan has been formulated in consultation with the representatives of the State Governments/UTs Administration, which also highlights the need for evolving a national consensus in support of the programme. As the Family Welfare Programme is to be made a mass movement, cooperation of all sections of society, including religious leaders, leaders of political parties, leaders of social organisations etc. would be sought for implementation of this Action Plan.

Ex-Gratia Pension to Retired Railway Employees

*173. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: