

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The B.Sc. (Hon.) Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy courses of Institute of Physically Handicapped which are of three and half years duration are affiliated to University of Delhi. These courses are being conducted as per the requirement of University of Delhi. Even though duration of OT/PT courses in some of the institutes is four and half years, on mere difference in duration, the comparison can not be made.

(c) to (e) The Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy courses of IPH have been brought under the purview of Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). The duration of the courses will be decided by RCI.

Protection of Cows

268. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cows are not being given proper protection in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken for providing protection to cows; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) One of the Directive Principles of State Policy enjoins that "the State shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and milch and draught cattles." However, under List-II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, the preservation of cattle is a matter on which the State Legislature have exclusive power to legislate upon.

The following State Governments/Union Territories have enacted legislation relating to prevention of slaughter of cow and its progeny.

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman-Diu and Pondicherry.

However, State of Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Union Territory of Lakshadweep have not undertaken any such legislation.

[English]

Revival of the Ayurvedic System of Medicine

269. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive the Ayurvedic System of Medicine and to conduct an intensive scientific research, analysis and experiment on it keeping in view the importance of Indian system of medicines in the World of Medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) In order to promote and propagate Indian system of medicines which includes Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy, the Government has already set up an independent Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM&H) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in March, 1995. The Department has identified the thrust areas for the development and promotion of these systems including Ayurveda. They are education, standardisation of drugs, enhancing availability of raw materials, research and development, information education and communication and involvement in national health programmes. Schemes have been taken up around these thrust areas. For undertaking systematic research in Ayurvedic system of medicine there is already a Research Council by the name Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) under the Department of ISM&H which is engaged in scientific research and other researches for further development of Ayurveda system of medicine so that the system could play a more effective role in providing better health care delivery to the citizens of this country.

Oil Exploration Agreements

270. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI :

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :