

(a) whether the practice of employing bonded child labour in the carpet industry has been detected, State/Union territory-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such practice?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Bonded Labour System has been abolished throughout the Country under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Some cases of bonded child labour have been detected in the past in States like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana and Delhi. Names of the industries in which the children were working as bonded labour is not maintained.

The States Governments, who are the implementing authority of this Act have been advised, time and again to keep continuous vigil and take punitive action in accordance with the provisions of this Act, as and when such practice is noticed in any industry in their area.

[Translation]

Treatment in AIIMS

341. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the situation arising due to increase in the number of patients in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and other hospitals of the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the patients have to wait for longer period for getting treatment in the major hospitals of the capital particularly in All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the patients have to face rude behaviour of hospital management; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the efficiency of hospitals and to improve the behaviour of the management ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Central Government had in 1977 got a survey conducted in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital to assess the information needs for patients visiting these hospi-

tals. As per the survey reports on an average 15000-16000 patients/attendants and visitors visit AIIMS on an average working day and the figures for Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. Ram Mahonar Lohia Hospitals are 15000-16000 and 9000-10000 respectively.

(c) and (d) The Government is committed to provide better medical facilities to the general public. A Model Citizen's Charter prepared on the basis of a Charter for Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi has been circulated to all Health Secretaries of States/Union Territories with a request to prepare the Citizen's Charter for the hospitals under their administrative control. The Charter seeks to provide a framework which enables our citizens to know—(a) what services are available in the hospitals (b) the means through which complaints regarding denial or poor quality of services will be redressed and (c) the quality of services they are entitled to.

In AIIMS there is also a proposal to improve the functioning of the Out-Patient Department and decongest the OPD by introducing Screening OPD/Clinic. For Safdarjung Hospital the Expenditure Finance Committee have approved the proposal for construction of OPD phase-III at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.44 crores during the 9th Five Year Plan. The proposal envisages construction of OPD phase-III (left and right wings) so as to cover most of the OPDs under one roof for the relief to the Outdoor patients.

Vacant Posts of SCs/STs

342. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts for various categories of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are still lying vacant in various departments and undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether fresh staff has been appointed in various categories apart from promotion given to the staff working in the departments and undertakings during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details of fresh appointments and promotions, category-wise and year-wise;

(e) whether the appointment and promotion of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes staff was done according to the rules; and

(f) if not, the action taken to fill up vacant posts in various categories and to grant promotion to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes staff as per rules?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Public Distribution System in Delhi

343. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the Public Distribution System in the National Capital Territory of Delhi has collapsed during the last few months and the common man are not getting PDS items;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to enforce and implement PDS System in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that Public Distribution System is functioning in Delhi. Occasional complaints against specific licensees/authorisation holders are attended to promptly. Supplies according to the entitlement of card holders are ensured.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Ban on the Term Loan to the Minorities

344. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have banned or propose to ban the term loan to be sanctioned to the minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for not releasing the budget allocation by the Union Government to the Minorities Financial Assistance Corporation in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) whether loan sanctioned to the persons in March, 1998 has been paid till date;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the time likely to be taken by the Govern-

ment to release the loan to those persons sanctioned in March, 1998; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the period 1994-95, an amount of approximately Rs. 44 Crores has been disbursed as loan to U.P. Minorities Finance and Development Corporation (UPMFDC) by National Minority Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) under the Term Loan Scheme in which NMDFC met with 85% of the project cost. The further disbursement of funds, however, had to be temporarily stalled in U.P. since Sept. 1997 on account of poor quality of utilisation of funds and non-repayment of dues in time.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Amount released by NMDFC to U.P. MFDC has not been utilised fully as dues have not been repaid to the NMDFC.

(f) No such time is fixed by the Government.

(g) As stated at (c) above.

[English]

Scavengers in the States

345. SHRIMATI BHAVANA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA :

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS) is very tardy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) the total number of scavengers identified in the States and the number of scavengers yet to be rehabilitated; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate all the identified scavengers within a time limit?