

- (iv) Visit to Japanese fashion designers to India to guide and train Indian exporters etc.

(c) Japan has been identified as a thrust sector for Textiles in the 8th Plan.

Housing as an Industry

246. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government to declare 'Housing' as an industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). The manufacture of building materials already come under the purview of industry and only the service sector is not within the purview of industry. However, this will be considered while formulating The National Housing Policy.

Guidelines to Private Nursing Homes

247. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue guidelines to private nursing homes in the capital so that these homes reserve a certain percentage of their beds and other facilities to weaker sections of the society on nominal charges; and

(b) whether this action is contemplated in view of the shortage of Government hospitals as also the reason that these nursing homes get certain facilities like land, etc. from the State on concessional basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) and (b). Private Nursing Homes in Delhi are controlled by Delhi Administration under Delhi Nursing Home Regulation Act, 1953. There is no proposal under consideration by Delhi Administration to issue guidelines for reservation of beds etc. in Nursing Homes in Delhi for patients belonging to weaker sections of the Society. However, Institutions seeking customs duty exemption for import of equipment, are required to provide free medical services to 40% Outdoor patients and 10% Indoor patients having income less than Rs. 500/-per month.

Nursing College in Orissa

249. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering any proposal to start a nursing college/institute/university in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the other measures being taken to promote medical facilities in tribal areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, as regards measures being taken for promoting medical facilities in tribal areas, it is for the State Government to take necessary action.

States Giving Old Age Pension

250. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where old age