

Unani system of medicine is carrying on the research. Do we take it that allopathic system is not doing any research in this field?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : The allopathic system has not come up with anything like a survey. Secondly, they do not have a sustained method of treatment. In view of this and also in view of some shortcomings in respect of other systems, we have found that the Unani system has taken greater interest in this and they have come to certain conclusions. They have finalised a particular method of treatment. They have made the survey of more than eighteen thousand cases which is a large number. Whatever reliable information is available, it is available from this system. I cannot say that the other systems have done nothing, but what they have done is so diffused that it is not possible to conclude anything definitely.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, leukoderma is such a disease, medicine for the treatment of which has not yet been found. But the Government and the health experts are aware of the causes of leukoderma. In such a situation, has the Department of Health evolved precautions to check the spread of this disease and to propagate these precautions among the people?

[*English*]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : The reasons which have been adduced so far for this disease are a little far-fetched. Some of them are really far-fetched. I would certainly like the Members to know that there is nothing precise and whatever has come to our knowledge is so imprecise that not much is possible by way of prevention. Now, gastro-intestinal disorder like chronic amoebiasis, chronic dyspepsia and intestinal worms also cause leukoderma. Then, leukoderma has been seen to appear after use of broad-spectrum antibiotics, especially chloramphenicol and streptomycin. This is really unimaginable that streptomycin should lead to leukoderma. It may lead to one in a million cases. All this is so imprecise that it is just not possible to make any

recommendation in regard to what preventive action needs to be taken. The matter is really in the realm of further research. Nothing definite can be said. Symptomatic treatment is given and normal precautions are taken both in allopathy and other systems and that is all that can be said at the moment.

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI : I would like to know whether any study has been made at the school level in the States regarding leukoderma.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : No, Sir, not with particular reference to leukoderma. But the schools have a programme which is intended to be intensified. I am sure that will cover all this.

[*Translation*]

Assistance to Students for Study Abroad

*518. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :**
SHRI DEEP NARAIN VAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government render any assistance under any of their policies to Indian students desirous of going abroad for studies on their own;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to formulate any such policy?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). Under the Scheme of "Partial Financial Assistance", assistance in the form of interest-bearing loan not exceeding Rs. 6,000 is given to Indian students desirous of going abroad for studies on their own, to meet the cost of one-way passage. This loan is refundable in suitable instalments.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated

that assistance in the form of interest bearing loan not exceeding Rs. 6000 is given to Indian students desirous of going abroad for studies. So far as my information goes, one way fare to Canada or U.S.A. is about Rs. 8000. I would like to know why the Government do not pay Rs. 8000 as non-refundable assistance to meet the cost of one way fare to the students who are sharp in studies and want to pursue their studies abroad so that they could offer their services to the country after completion of their studies ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Sir, this scheme is "Partial Financial Assistance Scheme" which was started in 1947. The main purpose of this scheme was to give some assistance to the refugee students of Indian origin living abroad. If for unforeseen reasons, a student faced financial difficulty at a later stage, he used to be given some assistance to enable him to continue his studies. However, after 1953, 'Partial Financial Assistance Scheme' was also used for giving merit scholarships. Under this scheme, loan for only one way fare used to be given and it did not have any specific purpose.

SHRI AKHILAR HASAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the policy of the Canadian and U.S.A. Governments is that they provide help in a number of ways to the students who study there for 6 months on their own. It includes offer of job there itself. Will the Government of India enter into any such agreement with those countries, under which the promising and brilliant students, after completion of their studies, could return to India to work for the development of the country and to strengthen our administrative machinery so that no shortage of experienced personnel is felt in the country ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Sir, the policy of the Government is to sponsor only meritorious students for studies abroad and they do return to India and prove beneficial to the country. As regards the comparison made by the hon. Member with U.S.A. and Canada, I would say that their rules and regulations are different from ours and, as such, it is not proper to compare the two.

SHRI DEEP NARAIN VAN : In reply to the question, the hon. Minister

has clearly stated that assistance of Rs. 6000 in the form of loan is given to the students desirous of going abroad for studies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of students who went abroad for studies, the number of those who returned to India as also the number of those who settled there itself. What action Government have taken so far to recover loans from those who settled there ?

[English]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : I would like to cut a long story short and say that this scheme is more or less moribund now. It is not in force. It was started for a particular purpose in 1947. That purpose was served and after that nothing has been done. This scheme needs or deserves to be scrapped and replaced by a scheme which makes better sense. That is what we are going to do.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know the number of students who went abroad for studies so far ? How much money was distributed to them as loan and how many of them belonged to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : So far as the question of the hon. Member is concerned, there is a separate scheme for it. As regards the 'Partial Financial Assistance Scheme' 159 students have been given loan under this scheme to go abroad since 1947, but many of them have not repaid the loan. As has been said by my senior colleague, the scheme has almost been scrapped now.

[English]

Overhaul of Delhi Main Railway Station Area

*521. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH† :**
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :