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EDITORIAL

HOMŒOPROPHYLAXIS

We are much enheartened to learn that, the Homœopathic Advisory Committee of Central Health Ministry has taken up Homœoprophylaxis as one of the subjects of research to be conducted under their aegis by the various homœopathic institutions.

We like to make some humble suggestions in this matter so that, research in this highly important aspect of Homœopathy may be effective and authentic.

Our Central Health Minister has announced on a number of occasions, in various conferences (like 15th All India Homœopathic Conference at Puri, 6th All India Homœopathic Congress at Ahmedabad) that, Government as well as people will give due respect to Homœopathy if it can prove its worth in various epidemic diseases. Whereas, all sections of Homœopaths from all platforms—including the West Bengal State Homœopathic Federation—have demanded that they should be provided with scope for authentically demonstrating such worth. We think that, the present decision of the Homœopathic Advisory Committee will provide such scope, only if the Government is really serious in the matter.

Research in this line entails a proper scope for preparing authentic and verifiable statistics. For such statistics a fairly large number of organised people must be at the disposal of all concerned with the respective research unit as well as of anybody who wants to verify the statistics. Such bands of organised people

are available in various teaching institutions, factories, tenements, colonies etc.

The people of such units must be given full liberty to choose the line of prophylaxis (Homœopathic, Allopathic or any other system of Medicine), or even to remain without any form of prophylactic medicine, while at the same time, keeping close vigilance on them for detection, as early as possible, of any case of actual infection and its immediate isolation and placing him under curative treatment in the line he prefers. It goes without saying that, these people must be under suitable hygienic regimen apart from any form of medicinal prophylaxis. By this arrangement, we shall get sufficiently dependable and easily verifiable statistical data regarding efficacy of Homœoprophylaxis as well as Homœotherapeutics in these cases, as compared with so called modern medicine, with sufficient number of control cases taking no medicine, without any unusual risk of life of the people under the care of any research unit.

It may be apprehended that, few people will prefer to remain under homœopathic prophylaxis, they will rather prefer allopathic prophylaxis. This apprehension may be substantiated in some cases or places, thanks to the intensive propaganda enjoyed by allopathic prophylactic medicine; but any practising Homœopathic physician is quite confident that a sufficiently large number—for statistical purposes—will be available in most places, who will gladly volunteer to remain under homœopathic prophylactic as well as curative medicine. We say this from our experience of the fact that, in spite of intensive propaganda, even coercion from authorities, a fairly large number of people from these organised societies come to Homœopathic private practitioners for these purposes. Of course, there will everywhere be some people who will prefer to avoid all forms of prophylactic medicine and to depend solely on available and adoptable hygienic measures. These people will act as controls in this research work. What is absolutely essential in this matter, is complete freedom from any form of prejudice or bias and a thoroughly scientific attitude on the part of the organisers of the research as well as the Government.

If these steps are taken with sufficient boldness and honesty,

and the research conducted for a number of years with respect to various epidemics, we shall get a thoroughly dependable comparative statistical report as to the efficacy of Homœopathic medicine in prophylaxis as well as cure of various forms of epidemic diseases.

From the result of inadequate statistics, so far available, with respect to various epidemics and from the experience of private practitioners, we can assert, with all confidence, that the result will be far more weighty on the side of Homœopathy than on the side of traditional medicine, or as compared with cases depending on any other system of medicine or no medicine; and at the same time, it will become crystal clear that, medicinal prophylaxis and cure of these fell diseases are possible with insignificant cost of money and no secondary consequences on the general health of people.

But the moot question remains, whether the authorities will prefer to make the people lose their life or health at a huge drainage of the State exchequer, by following their own fads and traditional prejudices, or be bold enough to completely open the door to Homœopathy for establishing its worth only at little cost of money and life.

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