

**Production and Marketing of Smoking Mixtures by M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. And Dunclan Agro Ltd.**

6873. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. and Dunclan Agro Ltd. are producing and marketing some smoking mixtures which are very injurious to health; and

(b) if so, whether Government will conduct an enquiry into the whole affair and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Government is of the opinion that any form of smoking is injurious to health. As per the Cigarettes (Regulation, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975, a statutory warning about the health hazards of smoking is required to be incorporated in the cigarette packets, cartons and advertisements so as to forewarn the consumers.

[Translation]

**Appointments made by Divisional Railway Manager, Katihar**

6874. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of appointments made on regular, temporary, casual and daily wages during the past two years i.e. 1983 and 1984, by the Divisional Railway Manager, Katihar and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons among them;

(b) whether it is a fact that applications were not called for through employment exchange for making these appointments as required under the rules;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in this connection; and

(d) whether there is a rule in the railway department that at least 25 persons will be appointed from amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates every year, and if so, whether this rule has been followed ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c). The information

is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) No, there is no such rule and therefore its implementation does not arise.

**Recruitment of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in Northern and Eastern Railways**

6875. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recruited in class III and class IV posts in Northern and Eastern Railways during the period from 1982 to 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

**Allotment of Pethidine Raw Material to Pharmaceutical Firms**

6876. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether pethidine raw material allotment is made to the pharmaceutical firms;

(b) if so, the basis on which new firms were allotted during 1984-85;

(c) the method adopted for its allotment; and

(d) whether any representations/objections have been received for a more equitable distribution and if so, the details thereof and corrective steps taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Narcotics Commissioner intimates to the Drug Controller (India) approved estimates of narcotic drugs including Pethidine. The Drug Controller (India) allots the quota of narcotic drugs including Pethidine to different State Drug Control Authorities taking into consideration the requirements of the State and the quantity utilised during the previous year. The State Drug Authorities in turn allocate the quota of narcotics drugs to their