

Reconstitution on NRUCC

6121. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reconstitution of the National Railway Users' Consultative Committee (NRUCC) is pending for about one year; and

(b) if so, the date by which it is expected to be finalised alongwith reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There has been some delay in the reconstitution of the National Railway Users' Consultative Council. However, the reconstitution of the Zonal and Divisional Railways Users' Consultative Committees is already in hand and the re-constitution of the Council will be effected thereafter.

Export Shipment Offer to Indian Shipping Companies

6122. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an offer to carry export shipment of over 1500 tones of Indian cargo to American destinations was made on behalf of an American company which bought the Indian goods in bulk, to the Indian carriers;

(b) whether none of the Indian Shipping Companies was in a position to carry the goods thus resulting in the loss of an excellent opportunity to earn some crores of rupees through freight movement; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Indiscriminate use of Sterioids

6123. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether indiscriminate administration of sterioids is growing at an alarming rate in the country;

(b) whether sterioids can induce frightening side effects in the human body and the most widely used sterioids 'Prednisolone' is fraught with reaction and side effects;

(c) whether sterioids marketed by multinational drug companies are being sold even without a prescription; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the abuse and free sale of sterioids and to discourage its use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). The corticosteroid group of drugs and their derivatives are covered under "Schedule H" of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules and as such can only be sold against the Prescription of a doctor. The effects of the corticosteroids are numerous and widespread.

The categories of side-effects are observed in the use of corticosteroids. Those resulting from sudden withdrawal of the drugs and those side-effects due to Prolonged use of large doses of Corticosteroids. Single dose of corticosteroids including popular brand "Prednisolone", even a large dose, is virtually without harmful effects and few doses of therapy, in the absence of