323	Written Answers	APRIL 7, 1988	Written Answers	324
1	2		3	
22.	Tamil Nadu		10	
23.	Tripura		2	
24.	Uttar Pradesh		13	
25.	West Bengal		16	
		Name of Union Territory		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands		94	
2.	Chandigarh		1	
3.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli		Nil	
4.	Daman & Diu		Nil	
5.	Delhi		1	
6.	Lakshadweep		Nil	
, 7 .	Pondicherry		Nil	
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[Translation]

Manufacture of Essential and Life Saving Drugs

6265. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item appearing in the Jansatta dated 16 January, 1988 in which it has been stated that it is difficult for Government to control the manufacture of irrational drugs by the multinational drug companies in the country;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that the market is flooded with many irrational drugs and the production of essential drugs is far

too low;

- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action Government propose to take against the multi-national drug companies and ensure production of only essential and life-saving drugs by them so as to meet their demands in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) to (c). The attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item appearing in Jansatta dated 16-1-88 highlighting the National Seminar on Rational use of drugs in Paediatric Therapy held at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. However, the caption of the news item viz.

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"DELHI MEIN BANNEWALI DAWAIYON KE STER PER KABU RAKHNA SARKAR KE BAS MEIN NAHIN" is not based on any factual statement given by the Drugs Controller (India). What was pointed out was that the States are the Licensing Authorities for manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs as per the requirements given under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and there are approximately 16,000 licensed units all over India.

The rationality of various combinations licensed by the State Drugs Control Authorities are being questioned from time to time at different forums. Government has constituted a Con-mittee of experts to examine all formulation moving in the market not only from the angle of safety and efficacy but from the angle of rationality. As a result of this exercise the Government has already prohibited manufacture and sale of 26 categories of drugs/drug combinations which covers approximately 3000 formulations. This screening is a continuous process and a committee of experts is engaged in examining more categories of formulations from the angle of rationality.

Drugs required for certain National Programmes and other essential drugs are included in Drugs Prices Central Order 1987. Production of essential drugs is monitored by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals.

(d) Production of essential and life saving drugs is monitored by Ministry of Industry, Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals as per the norms stipulated under the conditions while granting industrial licensing and action is taken in case of violation of any audition.

[English]

Development of National Highways linking Buddhist Places

6266. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any projects have been submitted by State Government of Bihar for the development of National Highways linking Buddhist Pilgrimage Centres in the State;
- (b) if so, whether the proposal has been approved;
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided and the action plan prepared for its execution:
- (d) whether some of the State highways have also been selected for development in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the financial assistance proposed to be given and the time by which it would be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) As part of the Action Plan for development of Buddhist Sector roads, projects amounting to Rs. 12.46 crores have been approved by the Ministry of Surface Transport. Another project for Rs. 0.48 crore is under consideration.
- (c) Funds to the tune of Rs. 300 lakhs have been allotted in 1987-88 for these approved works. These are likely to be completed in a period of three years subject to availability of funds.