

[English]

Age relaxation to OBCs

2311. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering age relaxation to OBCs in terms of the recommendations of Mandal Commission;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU): (a) to (c) The matter is under examination.

Anti-Diarrhoeal Drugs

2312. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether anti-diarrhoeal drugs banned by the World Health Organisation are being manufactured and marketed in the country without any restriction;

(b) whether these drugs have proved fatal in developing countries;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) WHO does not

impose ban on any drug. However, it reports ban imposed on drugs by different countries.

(b) to (d) As some such drugs are reported to be ineffective/harmful, Government have constituted an Expert Committee to examine such reports and make recommendations from time to time. Four such drugs for anti-diarrhoeal formulations have already been banned. This is a continuous process.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Petroleum Companies

2313. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the petroleum companies such as I.O.C., Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to retrench some of the employees working in these companies;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to adjust these employees in the other Government agencies; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.