

the recommendations of the Committee, tenders for procurement of uniforms are being invited. The progress in this regard is being monitored through periodical meetings with the recognised unions. As such the question of dis-satisfaction among the employees, does not arise.

Import of Tetracycline

2223. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that tetracycline imported by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited in 1977 was sub-standard and the same medicine had been supplied to the public;

(b) whether his attention has been invited to the press report captioned 'Sarkari Karkhane Se Ghatiya Dava Ki Supply' (Supply of sub-standard drugs from Government factory) published in the 'Navbharat Times' of 10 March, 1985;

(c) if so, the full details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (b) Government's attention has been drawn to a press report captioned 'Sarkari Karkhane Se Ghatiya Dava Ki Supply (Supply of sub-standard medicines from Government Factory) which was published in the 'Navbharat Times' dated the 10th March, 1985.

Hindustan Antibiotics Limited purchased 8 batches of imported Tetracycline bulk drugs from Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited in May, 1977 and took delivery even before testing because of immediate requirement. The material was tested by Hindustan Antibiotics Limited in its Quality Control Laboratory and found satisfactory. Based on this, a part of the bulk drug was taken up for processing and capsules prepared were supplied to the Army. These were returned by the Army as they developed colour. In the meantime, the test report of the Drug Controller was received by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited which indicated that four batches were of sub-standard. Part of the material was

returned to Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and replacement received by HAL subsequently. The other part was reprocessed to Indian Pharmacopoeial (IP) specification and used for making human and veterinary formulations. The capsules returned by the Army were also reprocessed to IP specification and disposed of. No complaints were received in this regard.

Engines for Vijayanta and other Battle Tanks

2224. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engines needed for vijayanta and other battle tanks are manufactured indigenously or acquired from abroad;

(b) whether any of the engines in use now are out-moded and obsolete; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to obtain more sophisticated engines for the battle tanks ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c) Engines for Vijayanta tanks are being manufactured indigenously under licence from M/s Leyland of U.K. Engines for other battle tanks in service are currently being imported. Efforts are being made to improve the performance of existing power pack for Vijayanta tanks and also to select a suitable alternative power pack. In case of other tanks efforts to indigenise the engines are also being made through Department of Defence Research and Development and other agencies.

Recruitment of Reserve Trained Pool/ Short Duty Sorting Assistants in R. M. S.

2225. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that people are recruited for reserve trained pool/ short duty sorting Assistants in Railway Mail Services;

(b) if so, the number of employees in R. M. S. throughout India in this category; and