

fixed assets was calculated in the absence of detailed records of non-recurring expenditure and 10% of the hospital expenditure was assumed to have been incurred towards cost of hospital services;

(d) The following steps have been taken to discourage the migration of medical manpower to foreign countries:

- i) Restrictions have been placed on medical graduates going abroad for higher education and training where such training facilities exist in the country. Doctors belonging to scarce categories are not sponsored for employment abroad.
- ii) Advance increments are granted to specially qualified candidates on the recommendations of the State and Union Public Service Commissions.
- iii) Improvements in the service conditions of doctors particularly those serving in rural areas are being brought about by the State Governments/Union Territory Governments.
- iv) The Scientists Pool Scheme operated by CSIR provides temporary placement to highly qualified Indian Scientific & Technical Personnel including medical doctors returning from foreign countries generally for two to three years.
- v) A scheme for supernumerary research cadre has been introduced by the Indian Council of Medical Research under which Scientists of outstanding merit, both medical and non-medical working in countries outside

India or in India and engaged in research in the field of Bio-medicine, whose work is adjudged to be of outstanding quality, can be offered temporary placement under the Council to enable them to return to India and to pursue research in their own specialty till such time as they are able to secure a regular position either in any of the Institutes of the Council or elsewhere.

- vi) The nationalised banks also offer loans to enable the doctors to establish clinics/nursing homes in rural areas and semi-urban areas.
- vii) The Medical Council of India have made necessary changes in their regulations on Undergraduate medical education to secure the community orientation of medical education with emphasis on preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative aspects of health care services to attract a large number of doctors for service in the rural areas.

Rational Drug Therapy in Paediatrics

473. SHRI H.B. PATIL:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of harmful, irrational and ineffective drugs and drug combinations are widely prescribed and sold in the Indian market today;

(b) whether in the Seminar held on 'Rational Drug Therapy in Paediatric Practice' at the All India Institute of Medical Sci-

ences, New Delhi certain recommendations have been made;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard;

(e) whether Government have any proposal to constitute a National Paediatric Drug Board; and

(f) if so, the time by which it will be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) A number of fixed dose combinations of drugs are moving in the market. The Sub-Committee of the Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) screens such combinations from the angle of safety, rationality and efficacy and recommends weeding out those combinations which are found to be harmful irrational or ineffective. So far Government has already banned 26 categories of drugs and their combinations. This is a continuous process.

(b) to (f). The World Health Organization sponsored seminar was organised by Dr. O.P. Ghai, Dean and Professor of Paediatrics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, but the Government have not received any recommendations from the organisers.

New Steel Plants

474. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new steel plants which are expected to go into production in the year 1983; and

(b) the number of mini steel plants

which are facing financial crisis and have failed to run into production in the year 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) 1st stage of Vizag Steel Plant is likely to be commissioned by the end of December, 1988. In addition, five new mini steel plants are expected to go into production.

(b) As per information available with the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel, 11 mini steel plants have been closed during 1987-88 due to financial problems.

Import Duty on Copper

475. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had received several representations from the copper traders/importers for reduction of duty on imported copper;

(b) whether Government had thereafter reduced the duty quite substantially;

(c) whether due to this reduction the domestic copper mining industry has suffered a great set back;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken to give ample protection to the domestic mining industry against such reduction in duty and/or price of copper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (e). During