

view to identifying unsafe working practices and weaknesses in the system. On the basis of their reports, a number of directions and guidelines on Safety were issued to the Zonal Railways.

[English]

**Steps to prevent Multinational Companies from Supplying Risky Preparations**

652. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the study conducted by the Canada based International Development Research Centre has revealed that 90 per cent of the production of trade in pharmaceuticals in less developed countries including India is controlled by Multinational Drug companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that staff opposition from these multinational companies compelled the Government to dilute the national drug policy based on the World Health Organisation's concept of essential drugs; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent the multinational companies from supplying and promoting ineffective, inappropriate and even risky preparations besides adopting arbitrary pricing policies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) This Ministry has no information on the study conducted by the Canada based International Development Research Centre.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Pricing Policy is based on the 1978 Drug Policy.

**Abolition of National Transport permit quota**

653. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :  
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :  
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to abolish state-wise National Transport permit quota in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOI) : (a) to (c) Restriction on the number of permits to be issued by the State Transport Authorities under Section 63 (11) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 have been removed through the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Ordinance, 1986 (No. 4 of 1986) on 28th January, 1986.

**Compensation to victims of loop users**

654. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the loop which had been used as a family limiting method, has been found to have caused severe damage to the users in the United States and the company making the loop has been ordered to pay heavy compensation; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider getting compensation for the Indian victims of the loop?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) According to information available with the Government an intra-uterine device called Dalkon Shield was being used