

be paid to it at frequent intervals. Greater care is being paid for proper maintenance of track.

A special safety team has been constituted in the Railway Board to carry out field checks. The trend of accidents is being constantly reviewed by the Railway Board and remedial measures are being taken.

General Managers have programmed to make a special safety inspection of all the trunk routes by November, 1981.

Joint patrolling of track by armed RPF staff and engineering staff over affected sections has been introduced. Barring of bolts of the fish plates at vulnerable sections is also being done.

### Assistance to Seychelles

2725. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have extended assistance to Seychelles, the specific projects for which the assistance has been envisaged ;

(b) whether the details relating to this assistance have been finalized ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) (a) to (c).  
Yes, Sir.

Government has extended assistance to Seychelles both under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme and in the form of a Government credit.

Indian assistance to Seychelles has so far consisted of the following :

(i) A gift of galvanised corrugated sheets worth Rs. 5 lakhs (1979) ;

(ii) Deputation of experts (since 1979) ;

(iii) Conduct of a study for the improvement of fisheries and sericulture in Seychelles (1980) ;

(iv) Offer of fifteen scholarships in various subjects (1981) ;

(v) Extension of Government credit of Rs. 2.5 crores for the purchase of equipment and material for a low-cost housing project in Seychelles (1981) ;

(vi) Announcement of a gift of two Chetak helicopters (1981).

### Manufacture of misbranded and Imitated popular drugs

2726. SHRI RAM VILAS PASVAN :

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale manufacture and sale of misbranded and imitated wide range of popular drugs in the country ;

(a) if so, details thereof ; and

(c) measures taken by Government to educate the people regarding the manufacture and sale of such drugs as also to review the existing Act with a view to plug the loopholes which give immunity to the manufacturers of such drugs ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI  
NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR)**

(a) and (b) : Reports have been received that certain manufacturers of drugs in Haryana and U.P. are marketing drugs which are close imitations of fast moving drugs and such preparations often bear names which are closely similar to some well known products. These imitation products do not contain the ingredients in prophylactic or therapeutic quantities. The attention of the Drugs Controller of Haryana was drawn to the above. The State Drug Controller of Haryana has informed that he has withdrawn permission granted to manufacture such products to five firms and the manufacturers have been warned that legal action would be taken if they were found manufacturing products closely imitating well known drugs.

(c) Adequate provision exists under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act (Clause A of Section 17) for taking action against misbranded allopathic drugs. The Drugs and Cosmetics Act will be amended in due course to include also a definition for the term misbranded Ayurvedic drug and penalties for offences relating to manufacture and sale of misbranded Ayurvedic drugs would be provided.

**Abolition of brand names of Drugs**

2727. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA**  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued an order for abolition of brand names of certain drugs by August 1, 1981;

(b) if so, whether this order has been implemented by the drug companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what action has been taken by Government ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI  
NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) :** (a) to (d). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had issued a Notification on 17-1-81 which lays down inter-alia that Drugs containing any of the following as single active ingredient shall be marketed only with generic names and not with brand names :

1. Analgin
2. Aspirin and its salts
3. Chlorpromazine and its salts
4. Ferrous Sulphate.
5. Piperazine and its salts.

The said Notification also lays down that preparations containing any new drug approved under Rule 30(A), 69(B) or 75(B) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules shall be marketed under generic names only and the licensing authority can impose the condition that such preparations should be marketed under generic names only.

Three companies viz. M/s. Hoechst Pharmaceutical Ltd., Bombay, Cynamid India Ltd. and M/s Pfizer India Ltd. have filed Writ Petitions in the High Court of Delhi challenging the validity and the Vires of the above Notification dated 17-1-1981 of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The Delhi High Court have granted interim stay of the implementation of the orders dated 17-1-1981 vis-a-vis specified preparations marketed by the above three firms in respect of which they sought relief.