

Scrutiny is made while the renewal of such passes is considered and if circumstances so warrant even before. Figures of expenditure in regard to the journeys performed on the basis of complimentary card passes are not maintained.

Declaration of Allahabad Haldia reach as National Waterway

1790. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have by now taken a decision to declare the Allahabad-Haldia reach of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system as national waterway,

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof,

(c) what steps are being taken to open the stretch between Haldia and Farakka for inland navigation and what are the points fixed on this waterway, and

(d) what steps have been taken to build the necessary infrastructural facilities at these points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) and (b). The Government of India has decided in Principle to declare the stretch of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system between Haldia and Allahabad as a National Waterway. Draft legislation for the purpose will be brought before Parliament.

(c) and (d). With the completion of Farakka Barrage and the Feeder Canal inland navigation in the Haldia-Farakka stretch has become feasible. Based on a detailed feasibility report, a scheme for provision of infrastructural facilities in this stretch of the waterway has been prepared and is being processed. In the scheme, the following 9 potential I WT terminals in this reach have been identified for development in stages:—

Haldia, Calcutta, Tribeni, Nabadwip, Katwa, Plassey, Berhampur, Pakur & Farakka.

Number of Primary Health Centres and sub Centres

1791. SHRI JAGPAL SINGH:

SHRI TRILOK CHAND:

SHRI CHANDER DEO PRASAD VERMA:

SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the number of primary health centres and sub-centres in various parts of the country as on 31st December, 1980;

(b) the number of such centres which were ill equipped and functioning with only one physician and the number of those centres which had no physician at all;

(c) the number of vacancies existing on 31st December, 1980 stating the reasons for these vacancies remaining unfilled; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies of physicians at the earliest for the proper functioning of the health centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) According to the information available as on 1st April, 1981 there are 5532 Primary Health Centres and 51184 Sub-centres in the country.

(b) and (c). As on 1st April, 1981 there were 4907 Primary Health Centres which were reported to be functioning with two or more doctors; 538 with one doctor and 36 with no doctor. One of the major reasons for the vacancies in the Primary Health Centres is reported to be due to the transfer/retirements of Medical Officers and the usual time involved in posting/recruiting their substitutes.

(d) The Government of India have impressed upon the State Governments, from time to time, the need to fill the vacancies of the medical officers in the Primary Health Centres.

Books published by teachers of Central Hindi Institute

1792. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) The details of books/Research papers published by the teachers of the Central Hindi Institute during 1979-80 and 1980-81;

(b) whether any academic review of their performance is made from time to time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEELA KAUL): (a) to (c). The information in respect of parts (a), (b) and (c) of the question is being collected from Kendriya Hindi Sangathan (Central Institute of Hindi) with its centres at Agra, Delhi, Gauhati and Hyderabad and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Racket in Misbranded Drugs

1793. SHRI CUMBUM N. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry are aware of the existence of a country wide racket in misbranded drugs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the confidence of the patients in the established medicines manufactured by reputed companies is being eroded due to this country wide racket involving manufacture and sale of crores of rupees worth of medicines initiating the well known drugs in package, printing and design etc., if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intends to amend the drugs and cosmetics Act of 1940 as it fails to provide adequate protection to genuine products against misbranded drugs; and

(d) what are the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government to control the menace of misbranded 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 5 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) and (d). 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.

Rewas-Reddi National Highway

1794. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has made any proposal for according priority to the work on the proposed Rewas-Reddi national highway (Sagari Maha Marg) in the dis-