

(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 The State Drug Controller of Haryana has informed that he has withdrawn permission granted to manufacture such products to 5 firms and the manufacturers have been warned that legal action would be taken if they were found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-