

Central Government to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the development of Ladakh under the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): According to information supplied by the State Government, the share of the Ladakh area in the provision made in the Second Five Year Plan for Jammu and Kashmir comes to Rs. 64.63 lakhs on the schemes mentioned in the statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 56]. In addition, financial assistance for schemes connected with the following will be available:

- (i) Development of Village and Small Scale Industries,
- (ii) Education,
- (iii) Health,
- (iv) Housing,
- (v) Welfare of Backward Classes,
- (vi) Labour Welfare and Social Welfare, and
- (vii) Development and Backward areas.

Information about the provision made by the Jammu and Kashmir Government for such schemes is not available.

सामान्य लिपि

१०८४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या भारत में एक सामान्य लिपि की किसी योजना पर सरकार विचार कर रही है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री धातार) : ऐसा कोई विचार इस समय नहीं हो रहा है ।

Excise Duty on Ayurvedic Medicines

1086. **Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation was received by Government regarding exemption of the Ayurvedic *Asavas* and *Arishtas* from the levy of excise duty; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The party has been informed that under item 2(ii) of the Schedule appended to the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, only *Drakshasava* and *Draksharishtha* are subject to duty at present, while all other preparations are not subject to duty.

National Certificate Course in Engineering

1087. **Shri Easwara Iyer:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that persons who have passed the National Certificate Course in Engineering in the different Polytechnics or other Institutes in India are not allowed to go in for higher courses of studies; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) and (b). The National Certificate Course in Engineering is a self-contained Course intended for the training of Overseers, Foremen and other categories of supervisory technical personnel. It is not a stage in the National Diploma or Degree or equivalent higher Course.

The National Diploma Course, however, provides for the admission of National Certificate holders also. Since the Diploma Course is not being conducted in any institution at present, the question of not allowing the Certificate holders to join the Course does not arise.