

completed and opened on 26-1-1983. This link has shortened the direct route on the B.G. system between Bangalore City and Bombay and towards North India.

#### Research on Kashmiri Culture

1858. SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state in view of the fact that Kashmir has great affinity with the Central Asian culture heritage what steps are being envisaged by Government to make research and investigation in the subject and provide Kashmir an opportunity to benefit out of this relationship and join culture work, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : The Archaeological Survey of India has carried out excavations in certain regions of Jammu & Kashmir including Ladakh. They have found evidence of neolithic culture and northernmost Harappan settlement in J & K. Similarly in the Ladakh region there are many important Buddhist monuments.

As for Central Asian Cultural studies, the National Museum, New Delhi, has a sizeable collection of Central Asian Antiquities and is engaged in research work on Central Asian Paintings, Textiles and Terracotta Art and also provides research facilities to scholars in the field. The University of Kashmir has also set up a Centre of Central Asian Studies which has been carrying on research on various aspects of Central Asian Art. The results of these investigations, will it is hoped, further enrich the history and culture of Kashmir.

#### Manufacture and Sale of Sub-Standard and Spurious Drugs

1859. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) serious steps proposed to be taken by Government to check the menace posed by the sale and manufacture of sub-standard and spurious drugs in the country ; and

(b) whether State Governments had also been directed by the Centre to inform the

Union Government regarding the progress in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI) : (a) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the menace posed by the sale and manufacture of sub-standard and spurious drugs in the country :—

(1) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act was amended in 1982 to provide for more effective measures for combating the problem of spurious drugs.

(2) The recommendations made by the Task Force set up by the Government for tackling the problem of manufacture, sale and distribution of sub-standard and spurious drugs are under implementation.

(3) The State Governments have been advised to set up intelligence-cum-legal machineries to deal with the problem of spurious drugs.

(4) The Central Drug Standard Control Organisation monitors reports of manufacture and sale of spurious drugs in the country. The State Governments are alerted, whenever necessary, and assisted in the investigation of such reports.

(5) The Deputy Minister of Health and Family Welfare has recently written to the Health Ministers of the States and Union Territories for tackling the problem of spurious and sub-standard drugs effectively and to augment and strengthen the Drugs control machinery for effective enforcement of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules made thereunder.

(b) Yes.

#### Memo from All India Railway Employees Confederation Dhanbad

1860. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum dated 28 May, 1983 from All India Railway Employees Confederation, Dhanbad.

(b) if so, the salient points raised in the memorandum ; and