to a report in "The Statesman" dated 9.4.1990 that the Soviet Health Ministry has decided to host an 'Introductory Course of Ayurveda' for 1000 Soviet doctors;

- (b) in which other countries similar programmes have been held or are to be held and for how many doctors in each case;
- (c) what is the outline and important contents of the 'Introductory Course of Ayurveda';
- (d) in what way the Union Government is boasting the spread of Ayurvedic knowledge in foreign countries; and
- (e) what progress has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Female Foetus Abortions

10050. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of female foetuses aborted in India since 1987, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether Government propose to stop the practice of aborting female foetuses; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Such information is not being collected by Government of India.

(b) and (c). Government have under consideration enactment of a Central legislation to regulate the use and prevent the abuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques leading to determination of the sex of foetus.

Non Availability of Gardinal Sodium Injections in Bangalore

10051. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Gardinal Sodum injections are at present manufactured by private drug companies in the country;
- (b) whether this life saving drug for newly born babies is not available at any Hospital in Bangalore City for the past two months; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Gardinal Sodium injection, a brand of phenobarbitons is manufactured and marketed in the country by M/s. May and Baker Ltd., now called M/s. Rhone Poulane India.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Appointment of Licence issuing Authority

10052. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licence issuing authority has been appointed in the Municipal Committee areas in Punjab as required under Rule 50(1) of the Prevention of Food Adul-