

for want of sufficient funds. Will the hon. Minister give an assurance in the House that Government will encourage medical research on a comparative basis in line with what other foreign countries are doing? Will he give such an assurance?

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

#### Suheli Canal Project

\*306. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by Union Government as its share on Suheli Canal Project in district Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether the project is yet to be completed and if so, the reasons for delay and by what date it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The State Governments plan, fund and implement their projects from their Plan resources. Government of India does not share the cost.

(b) The progress of implementation could not be as expected on account of constraint of resources. The project is now expected to be completed in the VII Plan.

[*English*]

#### Steps to bring down number of drugs

\*307. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has recommended only 225 drugs and the Indian Medical Association only 97 drugs;

(b) whether about 8000 pharmaceutical companies in India are manufacturing more than 60,000 drugs formulations; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to bring down the number of drugs to the level recommended by the Indian Medical Association so as to curb effectively drug adulteration, drug formulations, spurious drugs and drug addiction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The World Health Organisation has recommended to the member countries a list of essential drugs containing 285 basic drugs and 358 formulations of these drugs. The Indian Medical Association has endorsed the recommendations of the National Drugs and Pharmaceutical Development Council which got prepared a national priority list containing 95 drugs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has amended the Drugs and Cosmetics Act in November, 1982, empowering it to prohibit the import, manufacture and sale of irrational/harmful formulations of drugs moving in the market. So far, 26 categories of drugs covering about 2000 formulations have been prohibited from being manufactured and sold. The new Drug Policy under formulation by the Government is expected to cover relevant aspect of drug production.

#### 'Vishva Siddhi' affected by Nuclear Radiation of Chernobyl

\*308. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Vishva Siddhi' of the Shipping Corporation of India, which touched Soviet ports on Black Sea has been affected by nuclear radiation leaked out from Chernobyl in Kiev in the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, whether the ship has been given quarantine to avoid contamination to other ships;

(c) the number of crew affected and the cargo which was on the ship when she