

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : All the information has been furnished. If there is a roving question, there cannot be a roving answer. Question has to be specific and the answer also equally specific.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Vyas, ask a specific question.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are covered under the C.G.H.S. scheme, but the medicines which are supplied from these dispensaries, and which are used for the treatment of heart-disease and other diseases are not of a standard quality. The situation is the same in every dispensary whether it is North Avenue Dispensary or any other dispensary and your Department is showing scant respect to the Members of Parliament by treating them in this way. Apart from the treatment given to the Members of Parliament, I want to draw your attention to the fact that spurious drugs are being manufactured in every part of the country and because of which lakhs of people are being harmed. I want to know as to what action is being taken against the manufacturers of such medicines? The people of this country are being treated in such a manner; sub-standard medicines are being supplied and people are dying.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : The Hon. Member has raised a question which specifically deals with the Members of Parliament. Such complaints have been coming to us time and again and we have also taken action in this regard. However, I want to know more about such complaints. I want to convene a meeting of all those Members, who have some complaints and we will try to understand the problem and find out a solution. It is better to discuss it orally. Whenever I find such an opportunity, I will convene this meeting.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you permit, I will bring the samples of these medicines here.

[English]

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Many of the tonics which are being manufactured

either in Delhi or other parts of the country contain only water and sugar. They do not have the required vitamins. We would like to know whether the Hon. Minister will make an enquiry about the manufacture of all the tonics. What action do they propose to take in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Use of drugs banned

*762. **SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of drugs which have been withdrawn from market in other countries due to dangerous effect are still being marketed in India; and

(b) if so, the names of those drugs and what steps are being taken to ban those drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Drugs withdrawn in a particular country are not automatically withdrawn from the Indian market. Withdrawal of drugs is based on local disease conditions, availability of safer substitutes, price factors, adverse reactions among a particular geographical community as well as the views of experts.

Based on the above considerations, 7 out of 37 drugs reported to be withdrawn in some countries, have been allowed for continued marketing in India. The names of these 7 drugs are :

1. Hydroxyquinolines (Anti-amoebic drug)
2. Phenformin (Anti-diabetic drug)
3. Nitrofurans compounds (Antibacterial)

4. Higher dose Lyntestronol products (for gynaecological disorders)
5. Piperazine (Drug for thread worm)
6. Oxyphenbutazone / Phenylbutazone (Anti-arthritis)
7. Analgin (Antipyretic, Analgesic and Anti inflammatory)

Air Taxi Service

***767. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted in principle the involvement of non-resident Indians (NRI) in the operation of the Air Taxi service in the country;

(b) whether Government have also decided to give licence to any non-resident Indian for acquiring a 10 seater aircraft from abroad or a 19 seater indigenously made aircraft;

(c) whether it was proposed to acquire on lease 4 Boeings 737 and two Airbuses; and

(d) whether orders have been placed for acquisition of aircraft during 1989-91 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Any citizen of India is eligible to apply for Air Taxi Operating Certificate.

(b) Only twin-engined fixed wing aircraft with a seating capacity not exceeding 10 persons in case of aircraft manufactured abroad but already available in India and 19 in case of aircraft manufactured in India, are allowed to run as Air Taxi. Presently, no import of aircraft into India is permitted for the purpose of operating Air Taxi Service.

(c) Indian Airlines has plans to take one A-300 and 4 B-737 aircraft on lease during 1987-88.

(d) Indian Airlines have placed orders for acquisition of 19 A-320 aircraft for delivery during 1989-90.

Advertisements regarding reservation of berths/seats

***768. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by the Railways on advertisements in regard to the use of railways and reservation of berths/seats during the last three years ending 31st December, 1986; and

(b) the need for such advertisements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) An amount of about Rs. 79 lakhs has been spent by the Railways during the last three years ending 31st December, 1986.

(b) These advertisements are generally to inform the travelling public of the services provided by the Railways and the facilities offered and serve as means of improving safety and punctuality in the running of trains.

Abortion due to sex determination tests

***769. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the sharp rise in the incidence of abortion in the country as a result of sex determination tests;

(b) whether Government are aware of the long term impact of the imbalance between male and female birth ratio through artificial human intervention;

(c) the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken for changing the social attitude towards daughters; and

(d) the penal methods adopted to curb unnecessary sex determination tests ?