

country. One of the most important factors is that there is paucity of aircraft. From 50 aircraft, it has come down to 48 aircraft. We have to meet the demands coming from all parts of the country. We are transporting one crore of passengers from one place to another place. At times, if the delay occurs at one place, it goes on piling up and the consequential delay is also very painful and very inconvenient to the passengers. The steps we are taking is to purchase more aircraft and get more aircraft on lease also and to meet the demands. I would like to say that so many demands have come from so many Members and from so many parts of the country asking that new routes should be started and more flights should be started in all those places. Now here, because of these things, this is happening. I am really sorry and I have been saying that we are sorry that there have been delays but at the same time I would like to say that sincerely we are making efforts to see that there are no delays also. We have increased the efficiency and productivity on the one side but this is happening.

**SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :** You will be shocked to note that the basic wages of the Indian Airlines staff is somewhere around Rs. 168 to Rs. 250. It may be the lowest in any category in the Government of India or in any public sector undertaking. Even yesterday the people who were at the Airport told me that their salary is like this. Their basic wages are very less. Some perks are given on the basis of the increase in the cost of living index. I would like to ask, whether on the basis of the Fourth Pay Commission's Report to the Government staff and also the revision made in other public sector undertakings, their Dearness allowance and other allowances will be merged in the basic wages and their basic wages will be increased on the basis of the working hours—because if there is a delayed flight and all that it will have to be regulated—and will they be paid over time allowance for the work which they put in during the odd hours? When they work for more than eight hours per day, are you compelling them to sit late? I want a detailed answer.

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** With respect I must say that the information

given by the hon. Member about the wages which are given to the workers and the officers in the Indian Airlines and Air India is not correct.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :** What about the basic wage?

**SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :** What is the basic wage of the field staff?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** After the Fourth Pay Commission's Report was given that was applicable to the Government servants. It was not applicable to the public sector undertakings. The matter was raised and then the ad hoc increase was given to the officers and ad hoc increase was given to other employees also. To the extent of 10 per cent of their wages ad hoc increase had already been given and this matter is being looked into again and they are talking to each other. I hope that some agreement will be arrived at very soon and this matter will be looked into.

As far as paying to those who are working over time and all those things are concerned, we have our rules. According to the rules overtime is paid to them and this matter is certainly looked after properly and there is no difficulty.

**SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :** What is basic wage of the Indian Airlines staff?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** There are many categories. I can give you the chart which is available with me.

#### Sale of Expired Date Medicines in Remote Areas

\*388. **SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some medicines are being sold in remote parts of the country after their expiry dates;

(b) if so, whether any investigations were made into the matter;

(c) the names of the companies found to be involved in such malpractices; and

(d) the preventive steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ  
KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). Information  
received from the States is given in the  
statement below.

(d) Sale of date expired drugs is an offence under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. Whenever any such case comes to the notice of State Drugs Controllers appropriate action under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules is taken against the offender.

## Statement

*Particulars of cases of stocking/sale of Date expired drugs during the period 1987-88*

Name of the state	No. of Cases of stocking/Sale of date expired drugs	Name of the dealer involved	Action taken by the State Drugs Controller
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	Nil	—	—
2. Delhi	Nil	—	—
3. Gujarat	2	(i) M/s Sankalp Medical Stores, Ahmedabad	Licence suspended for 5 days.
		(ii) M/s Bharat Medical Stores, Ahmedabad	Licence suspended for 7 days.
4. Karnataka	1	M/s Renuka Medicals, Mysore	Prosecution launched.
5. Madhya Pradesh	Nil	—	—
6. Maharashtra	1	M/s Rajendra Medical Stores, Pune.	Sale licence suspended. Matter under investigation

1	2	3	4
7. Tamil Nadu	21	Not available	21 dealers prosecuted for having stocked for sale date expired drugs. 14 convicted and 7 cases are pending. However, no case of sale of date expired drugs was found.
8. Haryana	15	Not available	Informed by State Drugs Controller that in each case action has been taken and it will be warning or suspension of licences. The details were not immediately available.
9. Rajasthan	Nil	—	—
10. West Bengal	Nil	—	—

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is concerned with the lives of human beings. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that Government have not received any complaint from Andhra Pradesh or Delhi regarding the sale of date expired or the spurious drugs. Two complaints have been received from Gujarat and one from Karnataka. The 75% of the total population lives in remote villages and the people living in villages do not know anything about the spurious or the date expired drugs. Out of the total production of medicines 40 per cent medicines which are spurious and date expired, are being sent to the remote villages. For example, spurious and date expired medicines are being supplied to the Adivasis in Chhota Nagpur belt of district Ranchi but they do not know anything about it. Press clippings indicate that in Banaras, Kanpur and Delhi, the spurious-drugs...

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please ask the question.

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** Before asking my question I want to tell you the background and history of spurious and date expired medicines being supplied in remote villages. The newspaper writes : "Open sale of poison in the name of medicine." In view of the serious situation arising out of all these facts whether the Government propose to undertake any concrete programme to check the supply of date expired and spurious medicines to remote villages.

[*English*]

**KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE :** As the hon. Member has seen from the statement laid by us on the Table of the House there are the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, and the Rules...

[*Translation*]

**MR. SPEAKER :** You have stated in your reply that licences have been suspended only for 5 or 7 days. In this way they can take like of any body. They should have convicted for 10—15 years.

**KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE :** I fully agree with you. I alongwith my hon. Minister and other senior officers of the Ministry were discussing in the morning today that the conviction for 5 or 7 days or the suspension of licences is not sufficient. Government will try its best to give them maximum possible punishment.

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** In view of the seriousness of this matter, a committee was constituted in 1974 under the Chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi. The committee had made their recommendations on seven points.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Under whose chairmanship the committee was constituted ?

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** It was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Parliament is working under my chairmanship.

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** The committee was constituted in 1974 under the chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi. It had presented its report within one year wherein it had recommended on seven items suggesting ways of putting a check on the spurious and date expired medicines. Are the recommendations of Jaisukh Lal Committee still pending with the Government and Government have taken no steps in this regard. Have the Government taken any action on the recommendations of the Committee ? By what time the Government will prepare a concrete programme on the basis of these recommendations ? A period of 14 years has already passed.

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has expressed his concern about the sale of spurious and date expired medicines in market and particularly in the villages. The matter comes within the purview of the State Governments. Therefore, directions in this regard had been issued to the State Governments on the basis of the recommendations of Jaisukh Lal Hathi Commission. Controlling of Drugs is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government issues directions

to the State Governments from time to time and seeks information from them. The Hon. Member has rightly said that conviction of 5 or 7 days is not sufficient because such drugs may prove fatal for the individuals. A meeting of the Health Secretaries is going to be held tomorrow. Leaving apart the cases which are sub-judice, the issue of sale of date expired drugs will be raised and discussed with them. A discussion will also be held with the Controller of Drugs on the point as for how long we can suspend the licences of those who are dealing in spurious drugs. It will be particularly discussed tomorrow.

[*English*]

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI :** The question of spurious has often been raised in this House even before. I will not go to the steps taken but the fact remains that even in the Union Territory of Delhi only a few days ago a person belonging to the medical profession died after she was given an injection. And it is our experience that normally we do not purchase loose tablets, and normally we do not take the loose tablets which our own dispensaries give because these tablets do not have any effect. I myself had the experience that when these tablets were given my son's fever did not come down. I had to purchase tablets from stores outside and then that fever came down. When this question was raised in this House we were promised that the matter would be looked into and that we would be informed about the real position. I would like to know whether that matter was looked into and what is the outcome of it. (*Interruptions*) My next question is that a number of drugs which are today banned by the developed countries are still being permitted to be used in this country, have we got any agency like the Federal Drug Agency of the United States of America to evaluate whether the drugs are now today not being permitted in other countries are still being permitted to be used here, because of the influence of multi-nationals ?

**SHRI MOTI LAL VORA :** As regards the first part of the question, regarding the death of one doctor, we have already constituted an inquiry committee. The doctors of the hospital met me and they showed their anger; immediately we constituted the

committee. The report is expected from the Committee.

About the spurious drugs being sold in the market, as and when it comes to the knowledge of the Government, and the Drug Controller, action is taken immediately. (*Interruptions*).

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :** Why as and when it comes to the notice of the Government ?

**SHRI MOTI LAL VORA :** Until the matter comes to the knowledge of the Government how can we or the Drug Controller take action ? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Choubey ji there is no remedy of this disease of yours.

[*English*]

**SHRI MOTI LAL VORA ;** Generally, as and when anything comes to the knowledge of the inspectors, action is immediately taken. We do not want to hide anything. We want to take action against that person or such stores which are selling spurious drugs.

Here, the question is about the sale of drugs the expiry date of which has expired, not of the spurious drugs. But as far as I know, I can assure the hon. Member that we will take stern action and we will ask the Controller of Drugs to conduct a survey, especially here, so that we can find out whether the medical stores are selling such drugs as in the towns, and if they are found guilty we will give them proper punishment.

**SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU :** Mr. Speaker Sir, in view of the shortage of quantity of drugs which is being marketed in the rural areas and the quality also being of very low calibre, is there any proposal before the Government to go in for labelling these drugs on generic names rather than the labels and the brand names so that the number of drug formulations could come down, there could be some standardisation, the cost could come down and it would be available more in the rural areas ?

MR. SPEAKER : We had this question earlier also...

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : It is about generic names. It is connected with the quality of medicine.

MR. SPEAKER : We got it answered on the floor of this House.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : No Sir, it is not answered. (Interruptions)

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : Sir, the suggestion is very good. We will definitely look into it because it relates to generic names.

**Ban on Sale of Agricultural Land in Delhi for Residential Purposes**

\*391. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI† :

SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to put a complete ban on the sale of agricultural land for residential purposes in Delhi; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). There is no such proposal because under the provisions of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954, no agricultural land can be used for residential purposes.

SHRI C. MADAV REDDI : Sir, under the Delhi Land Reforms Act, the conversion of agricultural lands into industrial land or for any other purposes is prohibited. He is only stating the actual position of the law. But the point is that thousands of acres of agricultural lands are being converted into industrial purpose and for other purposes. Under the scheme of National Capital Region, a large number of people are selling away their lands for industrial purposes. I would like to know whether there is any restriction on the conversion of land from agriculture to industrial purpose,

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has said that in view of the scheme of National Capital Region a very large portion of the agriculture land is being converted for industrial or residential purposes. It is not correct. It has been clearly stated in Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 that agricultural land will not be used for any other purpose. Therefore, it cannot be converted.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : I did not talk about the conversion of the agricultural land. What I said was that most of the cultivable land is being sold for industrial and other purposes. Will the hon. Minister stop it ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : If the hon. Member has any specific report, he may please send it to the Government. It will be fully investigated.

**Additional Railway Lines on S.E. Railway**

\*394. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the surveys for laying third railway line on the Kharagpur-Panskura and fourth on the Panskura-Santragachi section of the South Eastern Railway, have been completed; and

(b) if so, when these survey were started and the time by which the construction work on these projects is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The survey was taken up in July 1985. Since it has not yet been completed it is not possible to say when the construction work is likely to start.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, this section, as the Minister knows himself, is the most congested section in the Indian Railways. It is noted that the survey was