

As regards transportation sector an expert committee set up by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals is currently examining the possibility of inter fuel substitution by use of methanol/ethanol/CNG/LPG. Further action will be concretised on receipt of Committee's recommendations. Whilst the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is experimenting with use of compressed Natural Gas for transportation, the DNES is developing technology and demonstrating, (a) the use of Battery Operated Vehicles to be charged during off peak period, for group transport in cities, and (b) Ethanol fumigation in diesel engines of 25 DTC buses to replace diesel by about 15 per cent.

Staff Position of the Central Hindi Directorate

1198 SHRI M VINCENT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3397 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th March, 1989 and state

(a) whether all the 21 sanctioned posts in the Tamil section of the Central Hindi Directorate have been filled up by Tamil qualified persons, if so, the details thereof,

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions which studied the staff position of the Department of Correspondence Courses of the Directorate submitted their report in March, 1990,

(c) whether it is also a fact that the report is still pending implementation; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BHAGY GOBARDHAN) (a) Out of the posts allocated for Tamil Section of Correspondence Courses Wing, profici-

ency in Tamil is required, under the rules, for appointment to 4 posts only (3 Evaluators and one Technical Assistant) 2 Tamil Evaluators have since been appointed. Offer of appointment has been sent to remaining one post also. One post of Technical Assistant is vacant. Action to fill up this vacancy has also been initiated.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions undertook study of the Correspondence Courses Wing of the Directorate with a view to streamlining procedural aspects of the functioning of the Correspondence Courses Wing of the Directorate.

Ban on Substandard Medicines

1199 SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Madhya Pradesh Chronicle of 18th September, 1990, to the effect that twenty six sub-standard medicines have been banned, and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure effective implementation of banning the marketing and manufacturing of sub-standard medicines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. SHAKHEELUR REHMAN): (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have declared a few drugs as sub-standard and published the same in the leading newspapers of Madhya Pradesh for the information of the consumers. Whenever, a drug is found to be sub-standard on test, action like withdrawal of drugs from the market/suspension/cancellation of licence or prosecution is taken by state Drug Controllers under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

Central Government has the powers to prohibit manufacture for sale of a drug/cosmetic in the public interest.