

(d) whether the State Government of Maharashtra have registered them as Veterinary practitioners; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to amend the Veterinary Council Act, 1984 to register such non-graduate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c) The Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 fully safeguards the duties and responsibilities of veterinary field assistants/stock assistants and such other non-graduate personnel as they can render Minor veterinary services under the supervision and direction of registered veterinary practitioners. As such veterinary services in rural areas will not be affected.

(d) Many States have their own Veterinary Practitioners Acts and as per most of the State Veterinary Practitioners Acts and the Indian Veterinary Council Act, only veterinary graduates are eligible for registration. However, as per the Maharashtra Veterinary Practitioners Act, 1971, a person can be registered even though he may not be possessing qualifications entitling him to have his name entered in the register.

(e) As provisions in the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 have been made on the basis of provisions available in most of the State Veterinary Practitioners Acts and the Indian Medical Council Act, there is no proposal to amend the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

Ban on practice by Non-Graduate Veterinarians

2079. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Non-Graduate Veterinarians are working independ-

ently in Rural Veterinary Dispensaries and Veterinary Sub-centres for over 30 years;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for imposing conditions on their existing practice by the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984; and

(c) what are the reasons for not recognising their services based on their qualification and experience on the line of Pharmacy/Homoeopathy and Aayurvedic Council Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Veterinary field assistants, stock assistants etc. look after the work of veterinary first aid centres/stockmen centres located in rural areas under the administrative and technical control of veterinary assistant surgeons of nearby veterinary hospitals or dispensaries.

(b) The Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 fully safeguards the duties and responsibilities of veterinary field assistants/stocks assistants etc. as such personnel can render Minor Veterinary Services under the supervision and direction of registered veterinary practitioners.

(c) Does not arise.

Eviction of Hindi News Agencies

2080. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two defunct Hindi news agencies are occupying prime accommodation in New Delhi without giving any rent to Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one of these agencies has allowed some business to be opened in the premises near Connaught Place;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for permitting continued misuse of the said premises; and

(d) whether Government propose to initiate eviction proceedings against the said agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. The two Hindi news agencies are Hindustan Samachar Co-operative Ltd. and Samachar Bharti which are in occupation of bungalow No. 2-D, 4-D, 6-D and 8-D, Connaught Lane and bungalow No. 13 Ferozeshah Road respectively. Both the agencies are defaulting in payment of rent for which appropriate action under the rules is in progress.

(b) and (c) It has just come to the notice that in the open space adjoining bungalow No. 2-D and 4-D, Connaught Lane a Dhabha is being run unauthorisedly.

(d) Appropriate action is being taken under the rules.

Coverage of news about the USSR Delegation

2081. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent visit of a nine-member high level delegation from the Central Asian Republics of the USSR (April 9—16, 1988) was ignored by the All India Radio and Doordarshan News Units; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to revamp these news units?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) During the period April 9—16, 1988 three delegations from USSR visited India. The two more important delegations led by Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee and the Deputy Minister were noticed by AIR in its 368 RS—3.

news bulletions. The third delegation of Soviet Enterprises was not covered by AIR and neither PTI/UNI. News agencies created any story or give any press release to AIR/Doordarshan.

Irregularities in fixation of seniority in the DDA

2082. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of irregularities have been brought to the notice of the DDA regarding fixation of the seniority of promotees from the post of Mates to the Post of Assistant Supervisor during the year 1984 onwards, in the Western Division;

(b) whether all the representations have been considered and irregularities removed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and by when the matter is likely to be settled by the DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) The DDA has informed that some representations have been received against the promotion of Mates to Assistant Supervisor in DDA. The seniority list of Mates has, however, not yet been finalised. The seniority of the cadres are being prepared/published taking into consideration all employees of the Authority working in the various Branches/Depths and not specifically of the Western Division.

(b) The representations received in this regard have been considered by the DDA and some of them have been decided.

(c) The remaining representations are being examined by the DDA and are expected to be decided shortly.