

■ (5) Considering:

(a) Filling critical gaps in national competence;

(b) promoting technical cooperation among developing countries; and

(c) other issues concerning science in international relations.

Suspension of a Scientist of Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu-Tawi

892. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news reports which appeared in the press recently to the effect that Dr. Gupta, a Scientist of Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu-Tawi who had discovered some new drugs, has been put under suspension by the Director; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Drug Research Programme at the Laboratory is handled by a Drug Development Group, consisting of Pharmacologists, Organic Chemists, Botanists, Biochemists and Drug Metabolism staff. This is a multi-disciplinary coordinated team effort and a number of interesting leads have been developed by this team. Dr. Gupta has been a Pharmacologist member of this group.

The said Scientist was suspended pending inquiry into certain irregularities alleged to have been committed by him and

a charge sheet was served on him, as per rules. The suspension order has, however, since been revoked.

New Patents by RRL, Jammu

893. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new patents developed by the Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu since 1971; and

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the research workers of RRL, Jammu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Twelve. Five of these were abandoned. Six expired after the full term of seven years. One was allowed to lapse after four years.

(b) No representation regarding patents has been received from research workers of RRL, Jammu.

Functioning of RRL, Jammu

894. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the 'Kashmir Times' of 26th March, 1982 regarding a CBI probe into the functioning of the Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu; and