

combination of four drugs will help in reducing the treatment period of tuberculosis.

(b) As this project requires fairly large quantity of expensive drugs, the Association has approached certain Pharmaceutical firms in India for free supply of these drugs. These firms have, however, regretted their inability to do so. The Association continues to tap various sources to obtain free supply of these drugs.

(c) The Tuberculosis Association of India has applied to the Drugs Controller and the Chief Controller of Imports, Government of India, for issue of necessary permits for the import of the drugs in question, in case the drugs are offered by firms outside India.

UNEMPLOYED DOCTORS

533. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING/स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have collected the figures regarding the number of unemployed doctors in the country;

(b) if so, the number of doctors at present unemployed in each State and Union Territory; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to provide employment to these doctors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING/स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRI A. K. KISKU):

(a) and (b) We have no statistical data showing the number of unemployed doctors in the country State-wise. There is an overall shortage of doctors in the country particularly in rural areas. At present about 280 Health Centres are without doctors and in many others there is only one doctor as against two required. In District, Sub-Divisional and Taluk/Tehsil hospitals also, there is shortage of doctors particularly of specialists in the District Hospitals. Because of reluctance on the part of doctors to serve in the rural areas, medical graduates may be finding it difficult to obtain full employment in urban areas.

(c) Suitable remedial measures are being taken to encourage doctors to serve in rural hospitals and dispensaries. Increased emoluments by way of special allowance, better facilities of living and working accommodation with adequate drinking water,

sanitary arrangements and all-weather approach roads to Primary Health Centres or Sub-Centres are contemplated. The Minister for Health, Family Planning, Works, Housing and Urban Development has also issued an appeal to the doctors in the country to render service in the rural areas.

†APPLICATION FOR LICENCE TO PRODUCE NYLON YARN IN MADHYA PRADESH

23. SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madhya Pradesh Audyogik Vikas Nigam (M.P. Industrial Development Corporation) had submitted an application in July, 1970 for the grant of licence for producing nylon yarn;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to grant the letter of intent for the purpose soon in view of the backwardness of the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) This application is under consideration along with other applications received in response to the Press Note issued by this Ministry in July 1970.

(c) Does not arise.

†LICENCES FOR SETTING UP RAYON POLY-ESTER, DECROX FACTORIES

58. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of licences issued for the setting up of rayon, nylon, polyester, decron and other synthetic fibre factories during the years 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72 in the public and private sectors, separately; and

(b) the number of licences which have been issued and parties in whose favour these licences were issued during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

†Transferred from the 24th May, 1971.