

(c) whether these persons are carrying out wild propaganda against Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd; and

(d) whether it is a fact that some of the persons have written to Government that they were misled by outside parties and if so, the names of these persons and the contents of their letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Factionalism was prevalent in the Antibiotics Plant, Rishikesh but this has been curbed by the management by taking timely action. Some baseless and malicious allegations were made by certain persons under instigation from anti-social elements.

(d) Yes. The persons concerned have since tendered apology for having acted in an irresponsible manner under instigation and emotional stress. The matter has, therefore, been treated as closed. In the interests of better industrial relations and smooth working of the project, it is not considered advisable to disclose the names of the persons concerned and the contents of the communications addressed by them.

DEMOLITION OF WESTERN COURT BUILDING

1646. SHRI T. SIDDALINGAYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to demolish the present Western Court building on Janpath, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the present land will be made use of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY):

(a) There is no such proposal under Government's consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

L.I.C.

1647. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of foreign business of the L.I.C. to-date; and

(b) the steps so far taken or proposed to be taken by Government to step up the L.I.C. business?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a)

| Period | New business out of India |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| | (Rs. crores) |
| 1965-66 | 8.50 |
| 1966-67 | 12.33 |
| 1967-68 | 9.07 |
| 1968-69 | 7.36 |
| (up to 28.2.69) | |

(b) The premium rates offered by the Corporation in foreign countries are lower than those obtaining in India. Moreover, commission to agents in foreign countries is payable at higher rates than those applicable in India.

'P' FORM

1648. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the

Reserve Bank of India has recently relaxed 'P' Form Rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) Necessary information has already been furnished in reply to the Unstarred Rajya Sabha Question No. 52 answered on the 18th February, 1969. So far, passage clearance could be granted only when the hosts abroad were close relatives of the approved category viz father|mother|brother|sister|uncle|aunt|nephew|niece. Hospitality offers from other relatives or from friends were not eligible for grant of passage clearance. Recently, as an experimental measure, it has been decided that hospitality offers from other relatives and friends could also be considered on merits provided, in addition to local hospitality, passage costs both ways were also being paid from abroad. All such cases would not automatically qualify for grant of passage clearance but would be subject to prior scrutiny and satisfaction about *bona fides*. The above change has been introduced as an experimental measure to be reviewed after some time.

Further details of this arrangement have been given in a Press Note separately issued by the Reserve Bank on 6th March, 1969.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE TO HEALTH VISITORS

1649. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that social Workers and Health Visitors in Delhi were until July, 1966, being paid conveyance allowance at a rate of Rs. 20 per month, and if so, what are the reasons for stopping that allowance;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to revive the conveyance allowance to them in view of the fact that they have to visit house to house scattered over a very wide area and spend from their own pockets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR):

(a) Conveyance allowance at the rate of Rs. 20 per month was sanctioned in 1962 to the Medico-Social Workers, Public Health Nurses and Lady Health Visitors of the Family Planning Clinics established in association with Central Government Health Scheme Dispensaries who were required to do field work within a radius of five miles of their Headquarters. The sanction expired on the 31st July, 1966 and could not be renewed as the staff could not produce evidence on the basis of the entries in their log books that they were covering the requisite distance to qualify for this allowance.

(b) The question of reviving this allowance is under consideration.

आदर्श नेत्र अस्पताल लाजपत नगर, नई दिल्ली

1650. श्री राजनारायण : क्या स्वास्थ्य तथा परिवार नियोजन और निर्माण, आवास और नगर विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1962 के वर्ष में डा० भगवान दास स्मारक ट्रस्ट को 2-एफ लाजपत-नगर, नई दिल्ली में स्थिति आदर्श नेत्र अस्पताल के लिए 63 हजार रुपये का अनुदान दिया गया था;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त अस्पताल को वास्तव में अखिल भारत नेत्र सुधार संघ चलाता है;

(ग) क्या डा० भगवानदास स्मारक