

SEIZURE OF TABLETS FOR T B IN MADRAS

*842 DR M. M. S. SIDDHU. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether tablets for treatment of Tuberculosis supplied by a Delhi Firm have been seized from E S I S Hospitals in Madras, if so, under what circumstances; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Director of Medical Services was of opinion that these tablets caused adverse effect?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR SUSHILA NAYAR) (a) On receipt of a complaint from the Deputy Director of Medical Services (ESI) Madras, to the effect that the PAS tablets used in the treatment of Tuberculosis, supplied by M/s Gurco Pharma, Delhi, to ESIS did not conform to the prescribed standards, the stocks of PAS tablets supplied by the firm were seized by the Drugs Inspector of the area from the ESI Hospital in Madras, under the relevant provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940

(b) The information is not available. However, the samples from seized stock of the PAS tablets have been sent for analysis. The report of the analysis is awaited.

REPRESENTATION FROM MADHYA PRADESH
M. Ps.

*843 SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 151 in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the former Union Minister for Finance held any discussion with the Members of Parliament from Madhya Pradesh in September, 1965 regarding the financing of primary education in Madhya Pradesh,

(b) if so, whether any assurance was given by him to the effect that he will give sympathetic consideration to the financing outside the State Plan of the schemes for the opening of primary and middle schools in Tribal areas during the current financial year as well as in the Fourth Plan period,

(c) whether any proposal has since been received by the Union Government from the Madhya Pradesh Government, and

(d) if so, what are the decisions of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was indicated that a special case could be made out for the educational programmes in Tribal areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter is being examined in consultation with the Planning Commission.

STUDY LEAVE FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

*846 SHRI LILA DHAR BAROAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that study leave is not granted to non-gazetted Central Government officials proceeding abroad to prosecute their studies/to take up training in specialised fields,

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give relaxation in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA). (a) While Study Leave Rules, 1962 provide that study leave shall not "ordinarily" be granted to non-gazetted Government servants, there is no serious bar to its being granted to non-gazetted staff.

(b) The reason for this does not appear from records but presumably the type of study which is necessary or desirable to make an officer more suitable for Government service can usually be availed of by officers of the calibre of gazetted officers.

(c) Study leave to non-gazetted staff is liberally allowed in practice where the other conditions for the grant of study leave are fulfilled and on the language of the rule no relaxation is called for on such occasions when leave is given.

TUNGABHADRA CANAL

*852 SHRI D. THENGARI. Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in regard to the construction of the first stage of the Tungabhadra high level canal; and

(b) by what time the water will be allowed for irrigation in the canal ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) In the first reach up to mile 69, about 95% of earthwork and about 90% of side wall and lining have been completed. Out of 148 masonry structures, work on 106 has been completed and work on the balance, more than 60% has been done.

In the reach below 69th mile about 80% of the earthwork has been completed.

(b) July, 1966.

DEVALUATION OF THE INDIAN RUPEE

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank and other international agencies have proposed to Government for the devaluation of the Indian rupee;

(b) if so, the details of those proposals; and

(c) what is the Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI SACHINDRA CHAUDHURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

FOURTH FINANCE COMMISSION REPORT

***854. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government from the State Governments regarding the failure of the Fourth Finance Commission in the standardisation of the needs of all the States in the appropriation of funds for the servicing of their debts including arrangement for maintenance of the sinking fund to reduce the loans, in determining the needs of the various States for Central Grants-in-aid under article 275 (1) of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government of India in this regard;

(c) whether Government have taken any action on the recommendation for the constitution of a competent body for

purposes of such standardisation as recommended by the Fourth Finance Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI SACHINDRA CHAUDHURI): (a) Government have recently received a representation from one State Government.

(b) to (d) The State Government has asked for an additional grant-in-aid of Rs. 15 crores from the Government of India so that it could make adequate provision for amortisation of its public borrowings. This problem is not peculiar to the State that has represented this but is attracted in the case of several other States also. Ordinarily the additional requirements of States, if any, for such purposes would be taken into account while determining the size of the Plan, the State's resources and the Central assistance to the State for the Plan. Nevertheless Government propose to examine the general question arising in this connection in the light of the recommendations of the Fourth Finance Commission regarding the indebtedness of States and the need for standardisation of amortisation of public borrowings. It is not considered necessary however to constitute another body to go into this matter.

PRICES OF SULPHA DRUGS

***856. DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to rise in prices of sulpha drugs as compared to 1964, if so, how the prices compare; and

(b) what measures have been taken by Government to keep prices of drugs from rising?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) Out of 12 sulpha-drugs imported into the country in 1964, there has been some increase in prices of 3 drugs. In the case of the remaining items, the prices in 1965 are lower than in 1964. As regards formulations, and packings containing sulpha drugs, the prices have not generally gone up, except for new formulations which have been marketed after 1st April, 1963 and therefore are not covered by pegging of prices order.