

Government to amend the Drugs Act to include within its purview the Ayurvedic and Unani drugs; and

(b) what decision Government have taken in the matter and by what time the amendment would be incorporated in the legislation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

#### RESEARCH ON PUNARNAVA

\*52. SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any research on Punarnava (*boerhavia diffusa*) and with what result; and

(b) whether there is any arrangement for conducting research on the same in the foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) The experiments made on Punarnava showed that it has no significant effect on visual acuity or refractive error of the eye. R. N. Chopra had reported an alkaloid called Punarnavine from the herb and that has been known to have diuretic action on the kidneys.

(b) The Government of India have no information.

#### 'TRAVEL AS YOU LIKE TICKETS' FOR INDIAN NATIONALS

\*53. SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue "travel as you like tickets" for Indian nationals; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the scheme will be placed on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### DAMAGE TO CROPS DUE TO FLOODS IN DELHI

\*54. SHRI J. S. PILLAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the extent of damage to crops in the Union Territory of Delhi on account of floods in the Jamuna in the month of September, 1962?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): The extent of damage to crops in the Union Territory of Delhi was approximately Rs. 1,82,150/- covering an area of about 2,935 acres.

#### CONSTRUCTION WORK ON NASIK BRIDGE

\*55. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of Nasik Bridge on Godawari River on Bombay-Agra Road has been held up;

(b) when the above work was started; and

(c) how long will it take to complete the work?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) No, Sir. The work was suspended only for the monsoon of 1962 due to rains and now it is in progress.

(b) In October 1960.

(c) It is likely to be completed by the middle of 1963.