

(b) and (c). A statement containing the suggestions made by the Anti-Spurious Drug Committee, which has been constituted under the auspices of the Calcutta Branch of the Indian Medical Association, and the action taken on them is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement indicating the suggestions made by the Anti-Spurious Drug Committee and the action taken thereon.

1. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—The offences connected with the manufacture, sale, etc., of spurious drugs should be made cognisable and punishments for such offences should be exemplary.

Action taken on the suggestion.—Necessary steps are being taken to amend the Drugs Act, 1940 accordingly. It is hoped that it will be possible to introduce the Bill in the next session of Parliament.

2. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—Sufficient number of properly qualified persons should be appointed as Drugs Inspectors under the Drugs Act, 1940. Drug Laboratories for the examination, test and analysis of drugs should also be properly organised in the States.

Action taken on the suggestion.—This suggestion which concerns the State Governments has been communicated to them for taking necessary action.

3. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—Sales tax on essential drugs and medicines should be abolished.

Action taken on the suggestion.—This suggestion which concerns the State Government, has been communicated to them for taking necessary action.

4. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—Licensing Authorities (appointed by State Governments under the Drugs Act, 1940) should take care, at the time of issuing licences for manufacture and/or sale, that the provisions of the Drugs Act, 1940, and the Pharmacy Act, 1948, are complied with by

the manufacturers and dealers in drugs.

Action taken on the suggestion.—This procedure is already being followed by the State Licensing Authorities.

5. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—Production on demand of manufacturer's warranty by dealers in drugs should be made compulsory

Action taken on the suggestion.—The question of amending the Drugs Rules, 1945, on these lines is under consideration.

6. *Suggestion made by the Committee.*—Prosecutions of offenders under the Drugs Act, 1940, should be conducted by Government.

Action taken on the suggestion.—The State Governments are already prosecuting those who deal in spurious drugs.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, since when this matter is under the consideration of the Government?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Ever since the report came to the hands of Government.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Calcutta Branch of the Indian Medical Association was assured by the Government that the proposed legislation will be taken up in the next session of Parliament, but that was in April 1953?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, we have to consult the State Governments and the other Ministries and that is why such a long time has been taken.

ASSOCIATION OF THE CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS EMPLOYEES

•312. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many associations of the employees of the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works are at present functioning;

(b) what is the total membership of each of these associations; and

(c) whether any of these associations has been accorded recognition by the administration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) to (c) There are at present three registered but unrecognised unions functioning at the Chittaranjau Locomotive Works. It is regretted that no reliable estimate of their membership is available.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, why any of these unions has not been recognised as yet?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, the Labour Ministry is going into the question of the membership of the unions and after we hear from the Labour Ministry we will be able to take a decision in the matter.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, since when the Labour Ministry is going into this question of the strength of membership of these unions?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I have no idea; perhaps for some time.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know when the matter was referred to the Labour Ministry?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not have the information just now. I do not know since when the Labour Ministry is considering the matter.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Have the Government received applications from these unions for recognition?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is only on receipt of applications that the Labour Ministry is examining the question.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, when Government received the applications from these unions?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not know the date.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: The matter is pending for a long time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is your suggestion.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As soon as we receive the views of the Labour Ministry we will be able to take action.

PROF. G. RANGA: Why does not the Labour Ministry come to his rescue?

(No reply.)

AGREEMENT WITH A SWISS FIRM FOR IMPORT OF RAILWAY CARRIAGES

*313. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the replies given to my unstarred questions Nos. 48 and 09 on the 14th and 17th April 1953 respectively and state:

(a) whether the negotiations for the revision of the 12 year agreement with the Swiss firm mentioned in those questions have since ended; and

b) if so, whether the revision takes account of the intention of Government not to order any more coaches from abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes.

(b) There is no intention to order more coaches from abroad than the number definitely stipulated in the Agreement of 1949 with Schlieren.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, whether the negotiations for the revision of the agreement mentioned in that question have since ended to the satisfaction of the audit authorities?