important step forward in India-US law enforcement cooperation to counter, inter alia, international terrorism and narcotics trafficking.

[Translation]

Scriptures and Manuscripte of Siddha System

137. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scriptures and manuscripts of Siddha System written in Tamil had been taken away by Germans from Tamil Nadu and kept in Martin Luthar University in Germany;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring back the said scriptures and manuscripts for use in India; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be brought back and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by Ministry of External Affairs, the Martin Luther University located at Halle in Germany does not have manuscripts on the "Siddha" System written in Tamil.

[English]

Vacancies of Engineers in CPWD

138. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present actual strength of regular and adhoc Assistant Engineer, Executive Engineer, Superintending Engineer, Chief Engineer and A.D.G. both Civil and Electrical in CPWD;

(b) the number of vacancies lying vacant in each above said posts separately in Civil and Electrical;

(c) the time by which all the vacancies are likely to be filled up by the CPWD Authorities and regularise all the adhoc Executive Engineers; and

(d) the steps propose to be taken by the Government to stop adhoc promotion against long term vacancies in CPWD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The information is given in the statement attached.

(c) The cases for regular promotion, including regularisation of adhoc promotions, are at different stages of processing. No time frame for completion of the process of regularisation can be indicated as it involves other organisations/agencies like UPSC and A.C.C. in case of posts falling within the purview of the ACC. (d) At present, adhoc promotions are existing in the grade of Executive Engineer only. The revised Recruitment Rules for the Central Engineering Service and Central Electrical & Mechanical Engineering Service (Group A) which include the grade of Executive Engineer, were notified on 29.10.96. A proposal for regularisation of ad-hoc promotions made prior to 29.10.96 in accordance with the Rules as they stood prior to amendment, has already been forwarded to the UPSC. Filling up of vacancies arising from 29.10.96 onwards regularly in accordance with the revised Recruitment Rules will be possible only after the process of regularisation of pre-29.10.96 vacancies has been first completed. Once this process is completed, the need for making ad-hoc promotions may not arise in future.

Statement

Post	Present strength (Reg.)		No. of vacancies
		(Adhoc)	
ADG	0	0	7
CE (C)	43	0	1
CE (E)	7	0	1
SE (C)	157	0	0
SE (E)	48	0	0
EE (C)	97	339	132
EE (E)	47	96	38
AE (C)	1516	0	252
AE (E)	637	0	45

Quacks

139. SHRI PRADEEP BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some medical practitioners have been found quacks in National Capital Territory of Delhi as per the survey conducted recently;

(b) if so, the number of such quacks in the country;

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government to check the increasing danger of quacks in allopathy in the country;

(d) whether the Government propose to make any law to make any law to ban the practice of quacks and for punishing them;

(e) whether the certificates of Registared Medical Practitioners are being given by fake and unauthorised institutions; and

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(f) if so, the action taken against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The information is being collected from the Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi.

(b) No survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to find out the number of quacks in the country.

(c) to (f) Penal provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as well as in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practice medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with the fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both. The Government of India had advised the State Government/U.Ts. to take action against unqualified practitioners. A person possessing a fake certificate is not eligible for registration with the Medical Council of India/ State Medical Council and are liable for punishment under the provisions of relevant law. An institution issuing a fake degree is punishable under the UGC Act, 1956.

[Translation]

Anti-Indian Sentiments at Pak Embassy in Nepal

140. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the PRIME MIN-ISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Nepal mein Pak Dootwas Bharat Virodh Ka Kendra" appearing in the "Hindustan" on the 4th June, 1997;

(b) whether the Union Government have sent a letter of protest to the Government of Nepal In this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of Nepal thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) to (c) Attention of Government has been drawn to the said newspaper article. During the Prime Minister's visit to Nepal in June, 1997, the determination of the two countries was reiterated, to work closely and fight the scourge of terrorism. The Prime Ministers directed their Home Secretaries to meet at the earliest to develop an understanding in this regard. They also renewed their commitment not to allow their territory to be used for activities directed against or prejudicial to the security of the other. They further desired that the meeting of the "Joint Working Group on Border Management be held at the earliest". (English]

Trauma Health Services

141. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

 (a) whether the gruesome fire tragedy has brought into focus the need for centralised trauma health services;

(b) if so, whether the projects has been hanging fire since the last 15 years and no concrete action has so far been taken till date to transform the dream into a reality;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to revive the project; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) A project for establishing a Centralised Accident and Trauma Service for Delhi was approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee with a financial outlay of about Rs. 16 crores in 1984. However, due to various factors including the issue of funding, the project could not be implemented till date. Keeping in view, the high percentage of accident victims in Delhi, a project for setting up a Trauma Centre in Delhi has been posed in October, 1996 for possible Japanese assistance. 14.34 acres of land is in the possession of AIIMS where new construction is possible.

A Centralised Accident Trauma Services is functioning under the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi which provides ambulance cover to accident victims. The Govt. of NCT of Delhi has also incorporated a new Scheme "Establishment of Trauma Centre in Delhi" with a token outlay in their Annual Plan 1997-98.

Exemption for Government Pension Scheme

142. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Private Sector and Public Sector Organisations have sought exemption from the Central Government's Pension Scheme, 1995 for industrial workers;

(b) If so, details thereof and reasons for seeking the exemption;

(c) the name of the monitoring authority; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yee, Sir.