

operations and passenger reservations, procurement of heavy horse-power locomotives and freight wagons of improved design are amongst the strategies proposed to be adopted to handle the anticipated increase in traffic.

Medical Reimbursement for Ayurvedic Treatment in Public Sector Undertakings

7. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether medical reimbursement in case of Ayurvedic medicines is not allowed to employees of Public Sector Undertakings whereas they are eligible for this reimbursement in the case of allopathic medicines ;

(b) if so, the reasons for this discrimination against the Ayurveda system of medicine which otherwise has adequate encouragement from the Union Government; and

(c) when the discrimination would be removed and the medical reimbursement would be allowed to employees of Public Sector Undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). The rules relating to medical reimbursement are different in different public sector undertakings. According to the information available, a number of these undertakings allow reimbursement of the cost of Ayurvedic medicines and have even appointed part-time Ayurvedic physicians for the treatment of their employees.

[*Translation*]

Policy Reg. Issuance of National Permits for Trucks

8. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the policy being followed by Government for issuing National Permits for trucks ; and

(b) the impact of this new policy vis-a-vis the old policy on the prices and the availability of essential commodities to the general consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) With effect from 28-1-1986, the quota restrictions on the number of National Permits for trucks, to be issued by State Transport Authorities, have been removed. Now, any person, ordinarily resident of the State/UT on application to the concerned transport authority, shall be granted such national permit, subject to his satisfying usual conditions prescribed in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(b) The new policy ensures easy availability of national permits for all truck-operators, thereby facilitating inter-state movement of commodities including essential commodities as and when required. The non-availability of national permit will no longer be a transport-bottleneck.

[*English*]

Primary Health Centres and Dispensaries Without Doctors

*9. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of health services provided in Adivasi areas ;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the primary health centres and dispensaries running without doctors ;

(c) if so, the number of primary health centres and dispensaries which are not having any doctor and since when ; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government in this respect ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Health services are provided in Adivasi areas through a net work of Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres and Community