

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

(e) A Dharna by some Station Masters/ Assistant Station Masters was recently staged at some of the stations in connection with their demands.

Post-Graduate Courses in Rasa Sastra and Dravyaguna at Dr. NRS Government Ayurvedic College Vijayawada

5039. SHRI V. SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received a request for starting post-graduate courses in Rasa Sastra and Dravyaguna at Dr. NRS Government Ayurvedic College, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, one of the oldest institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the likely date by which permission will be accorded for opening of the P.G. courses there; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A request for introduction of post-graduate courses at Government Ayurvedic College, Vijayawada was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in July, 1984.

(b) and (c). The State Government was informed that the proposal to upgrade the departments in the Government Ayurvedic College, Vijayawada would be considered, if the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing such assistance for upgrading of departments is continued during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Availability of funds for this scheme during the three years of the Seventh Plan period is barely adequate for maintaining the existing upgraded departments. Due to resource constraints,

it is not possible to upgrade any department at present.

[*Translation*]

Functions of Railway Recruitment Boards

5040. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in all Railway Recruitment Boards and since when the same are lying vacant;

(b) whether these Boards are functioning in accordance with the instructions of Government and if not, the monitoring arrangements made for ensuring proper functioning of the same; and

(c) the time which is taken in calling candidates for viva-voce after holding written examination by the Recruitment Boards, and the criteria laid down for calling a candidate for viva-voce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) The information is being collected from the Railway Recruitment Boards and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) The Railway Recruitment Boards are to function in accordance with the instructions of the Government, and in any case where special dispensation is required the approval of the competent authority is to be obtained by them.

(c) Attempts are always made to call the successful candidates as early as possible, after the results of the written tests are finalised. However the time taken varies, depending on the number of vacancies, the number of applications received etc. The number of candidates to be called for the interview is normally 2 1/2 times the number of vacancies in each category depending on the merit position of the candidates in the written test. However, in