

Documentary on Tobacco habits and oral

10081. SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has released a colour documentary on Tobacco Habits and Oral;

(b) whether Government are aware that this displays the hazards of smoking bidis, chuttas, cigars but keeps quiet about the hazards of smoking cigarettes; and

(c) the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir, A colour documentary film titled "Tobacco Habits and Oral Cancer" donated by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay, was released by the Films Division on All India circuits on October 27, 1978.

(b) and (c) There is no research to indicate that the habit of cigarette smoking is connected with mouth cancer and therefore cigarette smoking was not specifically mentioned as a cause of mouth cancer in the film. However, the film emphasises that no matter what tobacco habits one has, it makes one more vulnerable to oral cancer.

Officers holding top position in All India Radio

10082 PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain top position in A.I.R. and Doordarshan are being temporarily held by one or more senior bureaucrats;

(b) if so, full fact thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that such a state of affair has caused feelings of dissatisfaction and con-

cern among the experienced staff at lower levels; and

(d) if so, how are Government redressing such a grievance?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) The Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is temporarily holding the additional charge of the posts of Directors General, All India Radio and Doordarshan with effect from 1st April, 1979 pending regular arrangements.

(b) to (d) Different categories of Staff Associations of AIR have expressed conflicting views about the above arrangement. The arrangement is purely temporary, and a final decision in regard to filling up of these posts will be taken soon.

Shortage of 'Scoline' and 'Anti epileptic drugs'

10083. SHRI ANANT DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the acute shortage of 'Scoline' and 'Anti-epileptic' drugs presently being imported by some companies in India; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken and proposed to be taken to make available of such important drugs for the benefits of the masses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b) As regards Scoline, an important muscle relaxant, on receipt of reports about shortage of the item the matter was taken up with its manufacturer M/s. Glaxo Laboratories: who reported that Scoline is produced only against specific orders from institutions guaranteeing stringent storage conditions required for storing this drug. The company have also confirmed that requirement of any hospital who