

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to implement these guidelines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c). A meeting of technical experts was convened in March, 1995 by the Drugs Controller (India) to discuss various responsibilities of investigators and sponsors with regard to ethical aspects for conducting clinical trials in the country and formulating the guidelines. The same will be placed before Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), a statutory body under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 for its approval and implementation.

Nominees in Public Sector Undertakings

*415. SHRI SYED SAHABUDDIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of private individuals who have been nominated by the Government as members of the boards of directors of various public sector undertakings excluding public sector banking companies;

(b) the number of Government officials who are serving on the boards of directors of such companies;

(c) the number of vacancies in the boards of directors as on 31.3.95; and

(d) the number of such members of boards of directors of public sector undertakings who are full time employees of the respective undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). As per available information, 96 posts of full-time Directors (including Chief Executives) were vacant as on 31.3.95. Further, there were 504 full time Directors (including Chief Executives) in the PSUs.

[Translation]

Cost of Khadi Products

*416. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Khadi and Khadi garments are becoming costlier day by day;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to reduce the rising prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for increase in the prices of Khadi and Khadi garments are;

(i) steep rise in the price of cotton, and

(ii) increase in the wages for spinning and weaving.

(c) The following steps have been taken in order to control the prices of cotton and ensure adequate availability of cotton and cotton yarn to the domestic industry :

1. Duty free import of cotton has been allowed under OGL.
2. The Government has allowed duty free import of about 30,000 MT of Viscose staple fibre. This has been done to reduce pressure on cotton.
3. Selective Credit Control has been re-introduced.
4. The Cotton Control Order has been amended to prescribe limits on ceiling of stock of cotton by the Mills and the traders.
5. Advance licence holders have been instructed to import cotton in advance before they can be allowed to export yarn.
6. By restructuring value addition up to a certain level, KVIC also intends to lower down the prices of Khadi to some extent.

Heart Disease

*417. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several instruments for treatment of heart diseases and surgery are being imported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of these instruments are also being successfully developed and manufactured in the country;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to develop such instruments in the country; and

(e) the assistance and incentives provided by the Government to the manufacturers for the registration and marketing of such instruments for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The detailed information of the instruments imported for treatment of heart diseases and surgery is not maintained but some of the commonly used instruments being imported are