

(c) If so, what action Government propose to take to trace the source of the leakage and fix responsibility?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :
(a) to (c). Government are treating the report of the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices as confidential. There have, however, been some speculative reports in the Press about the contents of the report. It will not be in the public interest either to confirm or deny the same.

PROFITABILITY REPORT BY FOREIGN DRUG COMPANIES
9646. **SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR :**
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 1032 on the 27th February, 1973 and state:

(a) the names of 44 foreign Drug companies which have submitted profitability reports and what is the profitability shown by each of these firms; and

(b) whether Government propose to ask such of the firms as have shown profitability in excess of the prescribed limit, to reduce their prices and give some relief to consumers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :
(a) A statement showing profitability on sales turnover, for the year 1971/1971-72 of the 44 firms is laid on the Table of the House. (*Placed in Library See. No. (T-50/10/73)*)

(b) Excepting for one firm, namely, M/s. Reckitt & Colman the others have opted for the alternative scheme of pricing under para 14 of the Drugs Price Control Order 1970, which provides that gross profit before tax will not exceed 15% of the turnover in any year and any excess thereof if earned shall be funded for research etc. The profitability on sales turnover in respect of two firms has exceeded the prescribed limit of 15% as per para 14 of D.P.C.O. One firm has already funded the profit in excess of 15% and the other has been asked to do so.

Continuance of Foreign Collaboration by Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. Pimpri for Manufacture of Streptomycin

9647. **SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR :**
SHRI K.S. CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan antibiotics Limited, Pimpri has applied for continuance of foreign collaboration for the manufacture of Streptomycin for a further term;

(b) if so, what are the special reasons for continuance of the collaboration and the reasons why the H. A. L. has not been able to master improve on the technology so far; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take on the proposal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) : Do not arise.

Conversion of Nanpara to Gurupur and Rupsa to Bangiripur Narrow Gauge Line in to Broad Gauge Line in Orissa

9648. **SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO :**
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study team was sent by the Government to the Orissa State to survey the narrow gauge Railway line i.e., Nanpara to Gurupur and Rupsa to Bangiripur for extensions and converting these lines into broad gauge Railway lines; and

(b) if so, what are its recommendations and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI)

(b) : The uneconomic branch lines committee, 1969 examined the proposals in respect of conversion of Naupada-Gumupur N.G. line in to B.G. and extension upto Rayaguda and conversion of Rupsa-Talpanb N.G. section into B.G. They did not recommend for conversion of Naupada Gurupur line and recommended conversion of Rupsa-Talband N.G. line only. Accordingly the Traffic survey for conversion of Rupsa-Talband N.G. section into B.G. was carried out and the report has been received. According to the report the project is estimated to cost Rs. 3.79 crores yielding a return of only 2.53%. However the report is under examination.