

the amount allotted for the work for the year is only Rs. 38 lakhs. At this rate, how is it possible to complete it by 1980? Its fate appears to be similar to that of Vizag Steel Plant, the estimate of which is Rs. 800 crores, but amount allotted is only Rs. 1 crore. May I know whether the Ministry will assure us that it would take all steps necessary to complete its construction without fail by 1980?

**SHRI BUTA SINGH:** There is no doubt, we will leave no stone unturned to complete the project according to the date that has been given in the statement with the qualification of availability of funds. Such things are beyond our powers. Given that separately, we will see that the project is completed by that date.

**SHRI Y ESWARA REDDY:** The other line proposed by the A. P. Government is the construction of a new broadgauge line from Nadyal to Katpadi via Cuddapah. It passes through Rayalaseema area which is very backward. May I know whether the surveys at least will be conducted for this line in this year?

**SHRI BUTA SINGH:** There is only one proposal from the State Government, namely, to link Ramgundam to Nizamabad (160 kms) for which it has been possible to take up the Survey work.

### Drug Industry

\*416. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:**

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

(a) the total profits of drug industry in 1974-75 and 1975-76; and

(b) the total volume of imports of drugs during 1975-76?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):** (a) There are over 2500 drugs units in the country out of which 119 are in the organised sector. The prices of drugs are controlled

under the Drug Prices Control Order, 1970 and drug manufacturing units having annual turnover not exceeding Rs. 50 lakhs as recorded in the last accounting period are exempt from the purview of the said order. Statistics of profits earned by the drug industry are not maintained and the collection of information will involve time and labour not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(b) Complete statistics of imports of drugs during the year 1975-76 are not yet available. In the year 1974-75 drug and pharmaceuticals worth about Rs 45.60 crores were imported

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in respect of the fabulous profits earned by the drug industry in India, especially the foreign and the private sector, those companies are not maintaining any account, and there is no control on the profits.

**SHRI C. P. MAJHI:** Some information is collected from the multinational and other companies. But it takes some time to collect all the information. We have so far received figures upto 1973. During the period 1969-1973, the total amount of remittances made by foreign drug firms, with foreign equity exceeding 50 percent was as follows, year-wise. (Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would like the Minister to consider all these companies under the Companies' Act. They have to submit their balance-sheets; and they give the profits. If the Government is not maintaining the figures, can it not collect them from the figures that are available? They may be a year older but these figures can be made available.

**SHRI C. P. MAJHI:** The hon. Member is asking for the profits of all the companies. We do maintain some

figures; e.g. with regard to the companies which have a major foreign equity participation, for the year 1974-75 they had a turnover of about Rs. 230 crores, out of which their profit, before tax, was Rs. 16.6 crores; and the percentage of profit to turnover comes to 7.37 per cent. With regard to Indian companies, the turnover was Rs. 51.95 crores and the profit earned was Rs. 91.43 lakhs, which comes to 6.23 per cent

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE** : What is the total amount repatriated by the foreign companies during 1974-75 and 1975-76?

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI)** : We have figures from 1969 on wards; and from 1969 to last year, the repatriation on account of remittances on account of dividends, and on account of technical know-how, has been in the vicinity of Rs. 4.52 crores to Rs. 5.5 crores;

**MR. SPEAKER** : Is it annually, or is it the total figure?

**SHRI P. C. SETHI** : Annually. On an average, it comes Rs. 5 crores annually.

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में जो बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियाँ हैं, वे कितनी दवाओं का आयात करती हैं, और कितनी दवाओं का निर्यात करती हैं, उन दवाओं का आयात करने की क्या आवश्यकता है और उनको डमको स्वीकृति क्यों दी गई है।

**SHRI P. C. SETHI** : I would like to tell the hon. Members that with regard to imports and exports, the position since 1972-73 has considerably improved. For example the total import of drugs in 1972-73 was for Rs. 30.54 crores.

**SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI** : What is the figure in regard to multinational?

**DR. RANEN SEN** : How much are they exporting?

**MR. SPEAKER** : The hon. Members may kindly hear the Minister first. He may give further replies thereafter.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI** : We are having consolidated figures of total imports and exports. If the hon. Member puts a definite question, we will give the information

**MR. SPEAKER** : The Minister wants notice for specific information. So, let him put a separate question.

**DR. RANEN SEN** : This is a specific question on imports.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI** : I am prepared to give the information if he puts a specific question. In 1972-73 the import was Rs. 35 crores and exports only Rs. 10.33 crores. In 1974-75 while the import was Rs. 45.60 crores the export increased to Rs. 43.13 crores. So, the gap is only Rs. 2 crores. So far as foreign companies are concerned, in 1973 they imported medicines worth Rs. 15.13 crores and exported medicines worth Rs. 9.5 crores.

**DR. RANEN SEN** : That is the point which we want to highlight.

**MR. SPEAKER** : The question hour is over.

*Written Answers to Questions*

**Setting up of a Phosphoric Acid Plant at Kandla**

\*403. **SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU** : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Phosphoric Acid Plant at Kandla in collaboration with a phosphate producing Asian nation; and