

an experimental measure for the purpose that in case of excessive heat, the electrical circuit gets interrupted.

Take-over of M/s. Martin and Harris of West Bengal

2100. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the West Bengal Government's proposal for take-over of the Aspirin manufacturing company of M/s. Martin and Harris, Konnagore;

(b) if not, reasons for the delay and by when a decision can be expected; and

(c) whether this is the only Aspirin manufacturing plant in Eastern India and is lying closed for almost one year?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c). The proposal of the West Bengal Govt. for take-over of the only Aspirin manufacturing company in Eastern India has been considered in consultation with the other Ministries concerned. The matter has been taken up with the Govt. of West Bengal for furnishing further information for taking a final decision regarding take-over of the management of the unit under the IDR Act, 1951. The information called for from that Govt. is still awaited. They have been reminded.

Functioning of Smith Stanistreet and Company Calcutta

2101. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pharmaceutical firm of Smith Stanistreet and Company, Calcutta, is now functioning as an integral part of IDPL, or as a separate unit under IDPL management;

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(b) the reasons for not nationalising the firm, as was recommended by the Hathi Committee; and

(c) action taken to supply adequate raw materials to enable the plant to work up to its full capacity?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) and (b). The management of M/s. Smith Stanistreet and Company Calcutta, was taken over by the Government under the IDR ACT, 1951, and since then, Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited, has been functioning as the Authorised Controller of this Unit. This Unit continues to function as a separate Unit. The question of the future set up of this Unit is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) The Unit is getting supplies of raw materials from the Government agencies viz. STC and IDPL as per the norms fixed by Government and to the extent feasible.

Filament Yarn Factory in Andhra

2102. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have not yet permitted the Andhra Government to set up Nylon filament yarn factory in collaboration with a foreign firm; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reason for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b). Certain important aspects like the overall development of nylon yarn industry in the country and the need for import of foreign technology for nylon plants are under examination in the light of the various relevant factors.

The basic issues involved are under review.

Railway siding at Rare Earth Complex, Chattarpur

2103. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANL GRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Commission has requested for providing a railway siding at the site of Rare Earth Complex, Chattarpur in S.E. Railway Khurda Division; and

(b) if so, by what time the construction work will start and at what cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) It is necessary to undertake a survey before starting construction. The South Eastern Railway is accordingly finalising a survey estimate in consultation with Indian Rare Earths of the Department of Atomic Energy. The construction work on this private siding will be taken up by the Railway after completion of the survey and preparation of detailed plans and estimates. It is not possible at this stage to assess the cost of the work as the survey is still to be completed.

Railway Lines Sanctioned for Karnataka State for 1976-77

2104. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway lines sanctioned for Karnataka State during last two years and the present state of work on these lines; and

(b) the number of new lines proposed to be sanctioned during 1976-77?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No new railway line projects have been sanctioned during the last two years in Karnataka State, but construction of two lines—Hasan-Mangalore and Tornagallu-Mudukulapenta—is in progress.

(b) No new rail links have been proposed in the 1976-77 Budget.

Suggestion of Inderjit Singh Committee

2105. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of separating the Surgical Instruments unit of the Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited at Madras is being considered for transfer to an appropriate public sector engineering organisation;

(b) if so, the background of the proposal and the final decision taken in the matter.

(c) what other suggestions have been made by the Inderjit Singh Committee; and

(d) the action taken or proposed by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (d). In pursuance of the recommendations contained in the 56th Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings, a Committee consisting of eminent surgeons, Technical experts and officials was set up for going into the problems of Surgical Instruments Plant, Madras, one of the units of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited. One of the terms of reference of the Committee was to suggest future set up for the plant. The Report of the Committee has since been received and is under consideration of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, I am not asking any question. I am only inviting your kind attention to the fact that five people have died in Chasnala. The Minister has come here. I want him to make a statement.