

(a) whether a Petro-chemical Complex is to be developed at Nagothane District Raigad, Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, whether agricultural land to a large extent is being acquired for the Complex ;

(c) if so, whether his Minister has included the cost of rehabilitation of the displaced agriculturists in the cost of the project ; and

(d) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) to (d) : A petrochemicals complex is implementation in Nagothane, District Raigad, Maharashtra. Out of total area of about 558 hectares, agricultural land is about 226 hectares. Provision has been kept for rehabilitation of the displaced agriculturists. The cost of rehabilitation will be determined in terms of Maharashtra Resettlement of Project Displaced Persons Act, 1970.

Increase in Production of Cement to meet Domestic Demand

4032. PROE. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to increase the production of cement in order to meet the growing domestic demand ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the proposal to expand the existing units and establish new units as the present construction activities in the country require more quantity of cement than that is available in the country ;

(c) if so, whether the recent cement policy announced by Government is proposed to be amended ; and

(d) if not, the other alternate measures proposed to be adopted by

Government to maintain proper stock of cement according to the requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : Every effort is being made towards increasing availability of Cement in the country by fuller utilisation of existing capacity and sanctioning additional capacity for installation. The policy of partial decontrol of cement is constantly under review and will be amended when the need for the same would arise.

Indigenous Production of Drugs in Small Scale Sector

4033. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : SHRI MOTILAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether in most cases, drugs allowed to be imported as raw-material into our country attract cheaper rates of custom duty vis-a-vis the custom duty on its intermediates ;

(b) whether Government policy is to encourage indigenous production of drugs if these are being imported ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in the matter in order to boost up indigenous production of drugs in the small scale sector ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) In general, imports of bulk drugs carry a basic duty of 60% ad-volerum and auxiliary duty of 40% ad-volerum. Similarly import of drug intermediates carry a basic duty of 70% ad-volerum, auxiliary duty of 40% ad-volerum and counter-vailing duty of 12% ad-volerum. However, several bulk drugs, formula-

tions and drug intermediates are levied concessional rates of customs duty.

(b) Yes, Sir. if such production is cost effective.

(c) Small Scale Units, unlike organised sector Units are free to undertake the production of any bulk drug after obtaining the permission for manufacturing and marketing the bulk drug concerned from the Drug controllers of their States. Several other concessions have also been extended by the State Governments and Central Government to such units with a view to boost up production in the Small Scale Sector.

Theft of Insured Parcels

4034. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain insured parcels are stolen before these reach their destination;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that employees of postal department have been found involved in the theft of insured parcels;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Pollution Caused by Hindustan Paper Corporation

4035. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to take any steps to prevent the pollution caused by the waste thrown into the nearby Muvattupuzha river by the Hindustan Paper Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): The Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. is taking all steps to prevent pollution from the waste being discharged into the Muvattupuzha river. The effluent is given primary treatment for removal of solids and colour and secondary treatment for removal of B.O.D. and only after achieving the standard prescribed by the State Pollution Control Board, the effluent is discharged into the Muvattupuzha river. The Company is also taking in-plant measures to reduce the quantity of effluent to the minimum.

[Translation]

Linking of Chanderpur, Bhandara and Garhchiroli with Bombay and Delhi by S.T.D.

4036. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Chanderpur, Bhandara and Garhchiroli are the developing districts of Maharashtra and new entrepreneurs have to face difficulties due to insufficient means of communications;

(b) whether Government propose to link these three districts with Bombay and Nagpur as well as Delhi by STD service;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.