Review of Policies Regarding Production of Bulk Drugs

4100. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing policies framed by Government for production of bulk drugs have heen reviewed from time to time with the changing circumstances of the industry;

(b) if so, the items, year-wise, for which review has taken place with a change in circumstances, of small scale units having produced a number of bulk drugs; and

(c) if not; the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c): The National Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Development Council (NDPDC) had recently made recommendations on the changes to be made in the 1978 Drug Policy; Government is seized of the matter.

Increase in the Compensation given by H. P. C. to Victims of Kerosene Tragedy in Kerala

4101. SHRI SURESH KURUP : SHRI T. BASHEER ;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Chief Minister of Kerala to raise the compensation given by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation to the victims of kerosene tragedy in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the datails and the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATF OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yos, Sir.

(b) HPCL had earlier contributed Rs. 7.00 lakhs to the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund with a view to extending relief to the affected families. The Chief Minister Kerala, had suggested for payment of compensation @ Rs. 1.00 lakhs in each case of death and from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 25,000 (depending upon the scriousness of injuries) in each case of injury. After due consideration of the suggestion of the Govt. of Kerala, the Central Govt. has decided that Rs. 25,000 should be paid in each case of death, and between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000 be paid to each of the injured persons (the actual amount depending upon the seriousness of the injuries). The Govt. of Kerala, has been informed accordingly. HPCL has since contributed a further sum of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Relief Fund for the above purpose.

Enquiry into Kerosene Tragedy in Kerala

4102. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee enquiring into the kerosene tragedy in Kerala has submitted its report :

(b) if so, the findings of the Committee;

(c) the follow-up action proposed by Government ;

(d) whether Government are going to entrust any central agency like CBI to enquire into the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHOKE SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.