

DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Foreign collaborations with firms in Hungary so far approved, do not cover manufacture of advanced medical equipment and instruments.

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

Production of Bulk Drugs by FERA and ex-FERA Drug Companies from Basic Stages

6589. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of FERA and ex-FERA drug companies which are producing bulk drugs from intermediates and penultimate stages in our country;

(b) whether it is a fact that these companies are producing these drugs from basic stages in their own countries; and

(c) if so, the reasons why these companies have not been asked to produce these drugs from basic stages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) To the extent details are available, the name of FERA and Ex-FERA companies which are producing bulk drugs from penultimate/intermediates as well as basic states are given in the Statement below.

(b) These details are not available.

(c) These companies are producing the bulk drugs as per the Industrial Approvals held by them.

Statement

List of FERA and Ex-FERA companies producing bulk drugs from Intermediates/Basic stages

1. Bayer
2. Pfizer
3. Roche
4. May and Baker

5. Ciba-Geigy
6. Parke-Davis
7. Sandoz
8. A.C.C.I. (IEL)
9. Uni-Sankyo
10. Burroughs Welcome
11. Merind
12. Infor
13. S.G. Chemicals
14. Geoffray Manners

Second Thermal Power Station Expansion Scheme of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

6590. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what further progress has been made to the second mine and the second Thermal Power Station Expansion Scheme of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the cost of the project has taken much upward trend since 1983; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the present estimated cost of the expansion schemes including the sources of finance ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Action to procure major specialised mining equipment required for second mine expansion project is on hand. Short letter of intent has been issued to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited on 28-2-1986 in respect of main equipments pertaining to second Thermal Power Station Expansion Scheme.

(b) and (c). There has been an upward trend in the cost of the projects since 1983. Necessary action for approval of the revised cost estimates is on hand. As per estimates the revised cost of the second power station expansion scheme may go up to Rs. 1080 crores and of the second mine expansion scheme to about Rs. 760 crores, both at December, 1985 prices.

KFW has agreed in principle to give financial assistance for meeting the foreign exchange requirements in respect of equipment/components to be procured from West Germany. Rupee portion has to be met by NLC partly by budgetary support of Government supplemented by internal resources of the Corporation.

Communication Facilities in Villages

6591. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms being adopted with regard to the village post offices;

(b) whether Government are able to have communication facilities in all villages in the country;

(c) if not, when would Government bring all villages under the map of the communication system; and

(d) whether sufficient Extra Departmental Assistants are appointed in the village post offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Norms prescribed in 1978-79 for opening of post offices in rural areas are as indicated in the statement below. However, having regard to the extensive rural network already established, contrains of resources and the continuing ban on creation of posts, new post offices are not being opened in accordance with these norms.

(b) Yes, Sir. The rural postal system in the country covers all villages. Barring a few exceptions, there is a daily delivery of dak in all the villages. Villages postmen/extra departmental delivery agents visiting villages to deliver mail and pay money orders are also required to sell postage stamp and stationery and collect articles for despatch. In most cases such officials are also required to book registered articles. So far 1,28,669 post offices and 4,18,087 letter boxes have been provided in rural areas of the country.

(c) The question does not arise in view of reply to part (b).

(d) In rural post offices manpower is provided according to workload based on mail conveyance, delivery, clearance of letter boxes and transactions at the counters. In some cases, different functions are combined in one post while in some other cases, depending on work, different officials may be employed for different functions. On the whole, it can be stated that adequate manpower is provided in rural post offices.

Statement

Norms for opening of Post Offices in Rural Areas

Post Offices to be opened in rural areas have been classified into two main categories :

1. Post Office in Normal rural areas; and
2. Post Offices in tribal or backward areas.

(i) Post Offices in Normal Rural Areas:

(i) Post Offices in gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :

- (a) There is no other Post Office within the radius of 3 Kms from the proposed Post Office; and
- (b) The proposed Post Office is expected to yield income to the extent of atleast 25 per cent of its estimated cost.

(ii) Post Offices in non-gram panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :

- (a) The population of the village should be 2,000 or more;
- (b) There is no other Post Office within the radius of 3 Kms from the proposed office; and
- (c) The Post Office is expected to yield income to the extent of atleast 25% of its estimated cost.