

technology and expertise in oil exploration ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government ; and

(c) the steps Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited propose to take to improve their expertise and acquire latest technology in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir. The Advisory Board on energy has recommended that, even while trying to achieve self reliance, there must always be a technology window for there are always areas where country will have no option but to purchase technology and services.

(b) and (c). The steps include :—

- (i) Acquisition/Charter-hire of latest available equipment in the field of exploration, surveys and laboratories etc.
- (ii) Training of officers inhouse and abroad in latest technology.
- (iii) Participation of officers in various scientific/technical Conferences.
- (iv) Obtaining assistance of foreign experts whenever required.
- (v) Foreign collaborations and consultancy.

M RTP enquiry against drug manufacturers

1622. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has recently instituted any inquiry against the drug manufacturers and also asked them to stop forthwith the issue of misleading advertisements; and

(b) if so, full details thereof and action taken by Government against such drug firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). On the basis of application filed by Director-General (I&R), the MRTP Commission instituted an enquiry against one pharmaceutical company, namely, M/s. Burroughs Wellcome (India) Limited for issuing misleading and objectionable advertisement regarding their product 'Paracetamol', marketed under the brand name "Ridake", and passed an interim injunction order on 2nd June, 1986 restraining the company from :

1. Repeating the advertisement like the ones already issued;
2. Issuing any advertisement whatsoever which contains misleading statement that 'Ridake' is absolutely safe or is having no side-effects or implying so by way of suppression the side effects of the said medicine; and
3. Issuing any advertisement which contains any statement disparaging Aspirin.

The injunction order was made absolute on 26th June, 1986. Notice of Enquiry has been issued to the company and the hearing in the matter is fixed on 31.7.86.

Performance of State Electricity Boards

1623. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the overall performance of State Electricity Boards is poor;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the measures taken so far to raise their efficiency have yielded any results; and

(d) if not, what further measures are now contemplated ?