

reforms and is still under consideration. After completion of detailed examination and formulation of preliminary views, Government would also hold consultation with political parties before arriving at final decisions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Revision of Drug Policy

1069. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise the existing drug policy of Government to make it pragmatic and rational one;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) the steps being taken to make the drugs cheaper for the common man ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

Procurement of Life Saving Drugs

1070. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken to procure life-saving drugs which are not readily available in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : The Department of Chemicals monitors the availability of Essential and Life Saving medicines in the country on the basis of periodical reports received from the State Drug Controllers and the Zonal Offices of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation. As and when reports on shortages of essential drugs are received, necessary remedial action is taken.

Cooperatisation of Coir Industry

1071. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any centrally sponsored scheme for the cooperation of the coir industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned to Kerala for this purpose during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The centrally sponsored scheme for the cooperativisation of coir industry which is being implemented from the Sixth Plan period envisages financial assistance to the State Governments in the form of loan and grant on matching basis. The assistance provided to the members of coir cooperative societies and societies themselves include share capital assistance for the formation of new societies and revitalisation of dormant societies, managerial subsidy for appointment of paid Secretary/Business Manager in the primary coir cooperatives, assistance for purchase/modernisation/renovation of equipments, looms etc., by the primary coir cooperatives and marketing assistance for opening of sales outlets for the sale of coir and coir products by the apex coir cooperative societies.

(c) Rs. 25.75 lakhs.

Inflationary Trends in Essential Commodities

1072. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether consumer price inflation in the country had any downward trend during the current year; and

(b) the commodity-wise inflationary trends in the price situation of essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The information is furnished in the statement given below.