

(c) During 1982, about 337 DESU employees suspected of suffering from TB were advised further check-up and necessary treatment. The DESU employees are asked to get X-Ray done from the market and charges at the approved rates are reimbursed to them.

(d) The Chief Medical Officer was provided with staff car in July, 1984 on Administrative reasons for carrying out inspections and ensuring proper medical services. The Chief Medical Officer can purchase medicines on emergent basis up to Rs. 1000 subject to Rs. 10,000 during the full financial year.

(e) DESU is making continuous efforts to further improve medical services to its employees.

Loss to Electricity Boards during Seventh Plan Period

4410. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to an assessment made by the Planning Commission, the Electricity Boards will be incurring a loss of about 11,757 crores of rupees during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) whether tariff rates are proposed to be increased to check the expected loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) According to the Seventh Plan Document, the commercial losses of the State Electricity Boards in the Seventh Plan period, might, it is estimated, further increase to about Rs. 11,757 crores (excluding subsidy) at 1984-85 rates.

(b) Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the power to fix and revise tariffs is vested in the State Electricity Board. Effective 1-4-1985, according to an amendment to the Act, a State Electricity Board is required to carry on its operations and adjust its tariffs, so as to earn a surplus of not less than 3% (or such higher percentage as the State Government may specify) of the value of the fixed assets of the Board in service at the beginning of the year.

Benefits of Research Activities of Multinational Drug Companies

4411. DR. B. L. SHAILESH :
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Who benefits from MNC drug firms' research" appearing in 'The Statesman', New Delhi of 10 November, 1985;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied the genesis of the multinational drug companies in India reportedly spending over Rs. 50 crores in India on research activities to indirectly assist their 'principals abroad';

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether foreign exchange outgo on imports of raw materials including packing materials has been rising and in the case of many multinational units the increase is more than 50 per cent;

(e) if so, which are these units; and

(f) the steps which Government propose to take against those units having adverse foreign exchange spending in the name of production of high technology drugs in the core sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f). Import of raw materials is allowed as per Import-Export Policy. Company-wise imports are not available.

Supply of Coal and Lignite to Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

4412. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :