

(a) whether any committee/working group had been constituted to study the problems of the drug industry;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the committee/working group; and,

(c) whether Government have accepted their recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY. (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a). Government had Constituted the National Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Development Council (NDPDC) in 1983.

(b) and (c) : The recommendations of NDPDC are under consideration of the Government.

Committee on pay scales and interim relief etc. on Public Undertakings

3232. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to go into the pay-scales, interim relief and other matters relating to the public undertakings employees, has completed its report; and

(b) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Due to the demise of Mr. Justice P.N. Shinghal Chairman-designate of the High Power Pay Committee, steps have been taken by the Government to reconstitute the Committee. As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the High Power Pay Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of 12 months from the date of assumption of its office.

Augmentation of Domestic Resources due to fall in oil price

3233. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as

to what extent oil pool account has swelled due to steep fall in the international prices of crude oil and fertilisers; and

(b) if so, what is the extent to which domestic resources are likely to be augmented during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT):

(a). It is not possible at this stage to estimate the accruals to the pool account of the oil sector due to the fall in the international prices of crude oil till the end of the year. No such assessment has been made in respect of fertilisers.

(b) Does not arise.

Bio-Gas Plants

3234. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to give bio-gas plants to the agriculturists to avoid cutting of trees for firewood;

(b) whether Government are thinking of increasing the subsidy for bio-gas plants; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a). Yes, Sir. A National Project for Biogas Development which caters to family based biogas plants is under implementation. The objectives of the project, inter-alia, include promotion of biogas technology which reduces cutting of trees for firewood and produces good quality manure.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Heavy Engineering Corporation, Hatia (Bihar)

3235. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the persons whose land was acquired at the time of setting up of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Hatia in Bihar.