

(a) the number of multi-national drug companies in the country;

(b) the number of such companies who have been issued licences during 1988-89 and 1989-90 under the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987; and

(c) the number of applications of multi-national drug companies pending before Government for grant of licences/expansion till 28 February, 1990 and action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S.GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Presently, there are seven FERA companies operating in the Pharmaceutical Sector.

(b) M/s Wyeth Labs. was issued of COB Licence during the period in question.

(c) One application from M/s Pfizer for

grant of COB Licence is pending with the Government as on 28.2.1990.

Kerosene to West Bengal

4177. SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly supply of kerosene to West Bengal from December 1989 to February, 1990;

(b) whether West Bengal Government has requested Union Government for additional supply of kerosene; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S.GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The details of allocations and upliftment of kerosene to West Bengal from December '89 to February '90 are given below:

(Figures in tonnes)

<i>Month</i>	<i>Allocation</i>	<i>Upliftment</i>
December' 89	63320	64909
January' 90	63320	64102
February' 90	63320	64673

(b) and (c). The West Bengal Government had in February, 1990, requested for additional allocation of 4000 tonnes of kerosene for the Summer Block comprising the months of March to June, 1990. This was considered and Keeping in view the kerosene availability position, an additional allocation of 1000 tonnes was given for March, 1990.

[*Translation*]

City Allowance to Employees of Danapur Divisional Office

4178. PROF. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of employees and officers, category-wise working in Danapur Divisional Office, Eastern Railway;

(b) the number of employees among them who have been allotted Railway quarters in Danapur, and the number of those who daily go to Danapur to attend office from Patna city;

(c) whether the employees residing in Patna City are given city allowance at the same rate as other central Government employees residing there; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to pay city allowance to all these employees and officers residing in Patna at the rate stipulated by Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):

(a)	Group 'A'	21
	Group 'B'	17
	Group 'C'	482
	Group 'D'	160
Total		680

(b) No. of employees allotted Railway quarters in Danapur 396.

(c) and (d). The payment of Compensatory (City) Allowance to all Central Government employees, including those working on Railways, is governed by a uniform set of conditions prescribed by the Ministry of Finance.

As a doubt had arisen whether Compensatory (City) Allowance at Patna rates is admissible to the Railway employees residing at Patna but working at Danapur, as

Danapur itself is covered in a municipality, the matter has been referred to the Ministry of Finance for clarification.

[English]

Agro Based Industries

4179. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue letters of intent and Industrial licences for setting up more agro-based industries during the coming years;

(b) whether new scientific approach/methods are being envisaged to increase the production of those industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent the proposed scientific methods are likely to bring fruits?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Government's policy is to promote setting up of agro-based industries.

(b) to (d). An integrated approach to industrial utilisation of crops, crop residues and by-products for augmenting farms income; improvements in genetic material of crops and agriculture produce to improve inherent value and economic returns; modernisation of processing, storage and packaging techniques are envisaged to increase the production of agro based industries.

[Translation]

Performance of BCCL

4180. SHRISUKHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: