

on both the coasts. In case of deep sea fishing vessels under foreign flag operated by Indian entrepreneurs, deep sea fishing vessels are allowed to operate only beyond 12 nautical miles on the East Coast and 24 nautical miles on the West Coast. Activities of deep sea fishing vessels under foreign flag are regulated in terms of Maritime Zones of India Act, 1981 and rules thereunder.

(c) No licence has been issued to the foreigners for deep sea fishing in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, therefore, the question of cancellation of licences does not arise.

#### **Chinese-Myanmar Military Cooperation**

803. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:  
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Indian Express dated December 25, 1994 captioned "China wants control of Indian Ocean";

(b) whether the Government are also aware of the Military activities in the Bay of Bengal due to military cooperation between China and Myanmar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are aware of military cooperation between China and Myanmar and China's military activities in the Bay of Bengal, very close to our maritime and territorial borders. Government have raised this issue with both China and Myanmar on several occasions. China has said that its military cooperation with Myanmar and in the region does not distort the military balance, is for the legitimate defence necessities of the recipients and has no conditions attached. Myanmar has said that the upgradation of their capability is not directed against any country and has reaffirmed its strong desire to develop cordial relations with India.

#### **Working of NPPA and NDA**

804. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken regarding the administrative & financial aspects of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and the National Drugs Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely time by when these two authorities will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Consequent upon the announcement of "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" in September, 1994, necessary action for setting up of a National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) has been initiated by this Ministry and that for the National Drugs Authority (NDA) by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and both these matters are under process.

#### **Productivity of Major Ports**

805. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to increase the capacity of major ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the performance and productivity of major ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In 8th Five Year Plan 1992—1997, an outlay of Rs. 2984 crores has been provided for enhancing the cargo handling capacity of major ports from 169.23 million tonnes to 237.09 million tonnes.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to improve the performance of major ports like replacement and modernisation of the existing port infrastructure in a planned manner so as to keep pace with the growing demands of the trade and industry.

Towards improvement of productivity, Government have already introduced incentive schemes, productivity linked bonus. Moreover, a wage settlement has been entered into between the Port management with the Federation of Port and Dock Workers on 6th December, 1994 under which both the parties have agreed to make joint efforts to improve the productivity level by at least 7% per year with 1993-94 as base year.

#### **Gas Based Power Projects in Gujarat**

806. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up any gas based small power projects in Gujarat in near future with the assistance of private sector;

(b) if so, the details and terms and conditions thereof and the locations of the proposed projects; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.