

Review of Policy for Production of Bulk Drugs

439. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing policies framed by Government for production of bulk drugs have not been reviewed from time to time with the changing circumstances of the industry;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the items year-wise for which review has taken place with a change in circumstances of small scale units having produced a number of bulk drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government have already taken up review of the 1978 Drug Policy.

Profits in Public Sector Units

440. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether public sector units expect to earn record profits in 1984-85;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any of the on-going units have turned 'sick' during 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The accounts of some of Central Public Enterprises for 1984-85 are still under finalisation and audit. The full picture based on the audited accounts will, therefore, be available only after the accounts are finalised. However, based on the *provisional* estimates received from 191 enterprises, these together have made a net profit after tax of Rs. 956.12 crores, which is a record so far.

Leasing of off-shore Area for Oil Exploration to Foreign Companies

441. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to offer fresh off-shore areas for lease to foreign oil companies to supplement the efforts of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India for exploration of oil;

(b) if so, the names of the foreign companies which have been considered for this; and

(c) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The terms and conditions for oil exploration and production by foreign oil companies in the country have not yet been finalised.

Setting up of National Gas Grid

442. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI H. M. PATEL :
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up of National Gas Grid to effectively utilise the gas resources in the country;

(b) whether the blue-print for this plan has since been prepared; and

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Oil and Natural Gas Commission has prepared a preliminary report on the prospects of natural gas availability in India, and on the utilisation of this projected availability of gas. The total cost of the gas grid proposed for this purpose is about Rs. 13700 crores.

(c) Government have approved implementation of the HBJ gas pipeline project at an estimated cost of Rs. 1700.17 crores.