

(c) if so, with what result ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). On the basis of geo-scientific surveys, ONGC have drilled 7 wells. One well at Madhubani is under drilling. So far no commercial discovery of hydrocarbons has been made.

Projects Identified for Foreign Participation

2184. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Which are the projects identified by Government for foreign participation; and

(b) the names of the countries that have extended direct investment alongwith the identified industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government's policy for foreign collaboration is selective and based on national priorities. Foreign collaboration is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in expert-oriented or for import substitution manufacturing or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet efficiently domestic requirements and/or to become competitive in the export market. However, the initiative for selection of sources of technology is left to the Indian entrepreneurs. They explore the alternative sources of technology, make a techno-economic analysis of the proposed foreign collaboration and select the foreign collaborator whose offer suits them best and submit the proposals for consideration of the Government.

(b) Details of all approved foreign collaborations showing the names of Indian and Foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on a monthly basis by Indian Investment Centre, as a supplement to its

monthly newsletter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

Steps to Check Inflow of Hazardous Drugs

2185. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of the drugs marketed in the country considered to be non-essential and their percentage in terms of value as against the total value of drugs marketed;

(b) the estimated drug formulations in vogue in the country and how do they compare with the formulations in vogue in the Western countries; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check the inflow of hazardous drugs and to weed out the non-essential drugs in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The number of formulations marketed in the country runs into thousands. For marketing the formulations in question permission under Drugs and Cosmetics Act has been obtained.

(b) No such study of comparison about the number of formulations in India and Western countries has been carried out.

(c) The drugs marketed in the country and their side-effects and efficacy is reviewed and from time to time steps are taken to ban the use of hazardous drugs.

Appointment of LPG Agencies Distributors in Palghat District (Kerala)

2186. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHVAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :