

reorganisation, has submitted its report and is under consideration of the Ministry. The House will be informed about the further decisions of the Government.

Demand for level crossing near Talani-Nimbhora Railway Station

291. SHRI SANTOSHRAO GODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for a level crossing near Talani-Nimbhora Railway Station in Chandur (Railway) Taluka in Amravati District; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Panchayat Samiti, Chandur has been asking for a level crossing at this location since 1976.

(b) The Panchayat Samiti, Chandur has been asking for provision of a new level crossing at km 718/4 at Talani Railway Station. As per extant rules, the cost of all new level crossings (both initial as well as recurring/maintenance) is required to be borne by the State Government/Local Authority requiring the facility. No firm proposal has so far been received from the State Government. As soon as the State Government sponsors the proposal together with an undertaking to bear the cost involved, the Railway Administration will take further necessary action to provide the level crossing.

Setting up of Drug Units in the Joint Sector

292. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many States have approached the I.D.P.L. to set up drug units in the joint sector to meet the growing demand for drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government on it;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet the growing demand for drugs; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to meet the demand of Ayurvedic, Unani and Homoeopathic medicines?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

The States of U.P. Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa approached Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited for setting up Joint Sector units in their states.

(b) Government have so far approved the establishment of formulation unit in joint sector in U.P. and a project for manufacture of Starch, Dextrose etc. in Joint Sector in Punjab. Government have also approved the establishment of a formulation unit in Madras in the Surgical Instruments Plant.

(c) During the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 Government have issued 169 letters of intent/licences for the manufacture of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals. Apart from this, Government have liberalised the policy of allocation of canalised raw-materials to small scale units. Government have also approved schemes for expansion for the public sector involving a total outlay of Rs. 64.89 crores.

(d) As regards Ayurvedic, Unani and Homoeopathic medicines:—

(i) It is proposed to establish a Central Pharmacy for the manufacture of Ayurvedic and Unani drugs