

(b) if so, which are the sites and the quantum of expenditure to be incurred thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA)** (a) and (b) Based on geological priorities, petroleum exploration work is taken up in different areas on land and offshore. Presently such work is in progress in various parts of Gujarat Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh Uttar Pradesh West Bengal Assam Arunachal Pradesh Tripura Tamil Nadu Pondicherry Andhra Pradesh Maharashtra and Andaman and Nicobar Island on land and various offshore areas of the country. This work is of a continuing nature and no estimate of expenditure can be given.

**Fertiliser Plants for the Exploitation of Bombay High Gas**

1820 **SHRI S K SARDA** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) are there any proposals to bring in foreign companies to set up the next generation of fertilizer plants for the exploitation of Bombay High gas and

(b) whether the Fertilizer Corporation of India is being by-passed for the construction of these plants when this organisation is already operating the large gas based plant at Namrup in Assam?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWARA MISHRA)** (a) and (b) Import of technology and expatriate assistance for the setting up of the fertilizer plants based

on Bombay High Gas would be made only to the extent that these are not available in India

**High Prices of Drugs due to Canalisation**

1821 **SHRI MOTIBHAI R CHAUDHARY** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether canalisation of certain drugs has resulted in high prices for consumers whether Government have made a study in this regard and if so details thereof,

(b) whether along with canalised items IDPL distribute other items produced by them,

(c) whether any cost-cum-technical examination has been conducted with regard to prices of IDPL items if so, details of the items, and

(d) cases where IDPL violated the prices fixed by Government and action proposed to be taken against them?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA)** (a) Imports of canalised bulk drugs are arranged by the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India Ltd (CPC) at competitive prices based on quotations invited from the manufacturers abroad. The list of canalised drugs is reviewed every year keeping in view the country's requirements as also the extent of variation in import prices of actual users from different sources noticed in the past.

The following Table will illustrate the position about the competitiveness and variation in prices of some of the canalised drugs

S No	Name of the drug	Quantity of imports during 1977-78 (Planned) Tonnes	CIF price at which imported by actual users/importers before canalisation Rs/kg	CIF price of imports after canalisation through CPC Rs/kg
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Indomethacin	1	4320	364.83
2	Trimethoprim	2	2060	561.34