

by them for manufacture of Chloramphenicol from basic stages, it was decided to allow them release of L-Base till 31st March, 1979.

An allocation order for release of 22 tonnes of L-Base was recently issued in favour of this company. However, the implementation of this release order has been with-held because of a report meanwhile that this firm had secured sizeable quantities of L-Base under REP licences.

A Technical Team has been recently appointed to inspect the state of affairs of this company as well as to make such other investigations/studies as may be necessary so as to enable the Government to come to a positive conclusion about the future of this company from the point of view of whether or not they would, within a reasonably predictable period, be able to commence production of Chloramphenicol from the basic stage.

Group Insurance Scheme for Railway Porters

4563. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Group Insurance Scheme for railway porters ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) : (a) and (b). A proposal to provide some social security measure by way of a Group Insurance Scheme to railway licensed porters has been engaging the attention of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Life Insurance Corporation of India and this Ministry. A final decision will be taken after studying the various aspects of the scheme in consultation with the Ministry of Labour and the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

Suggestion to Amend Companies Act

4564. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be Pleased to state :

(a) whether an eminent British Industrialist and Economist Mr. George Gogder has suggested an amendment in the Indian Companies Act ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) : (a) The Government have not received any suggestion from the British Industrialist and Economist Mr. George Gogder or from somebody on his behalf for the amendment of the Companies Act, 1956. The Government have, however, seen newspaper reports indicating the suggestions of Mr. Gogder for the introduction of the concept of trusteeship in industrial management through legislation.

(b) The whole question of the review of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 is before an Expert Committee which is expected to look into the entire structure of these two Acts and make its recommendations.

Reclassification of Pharmaceutical Raw Material

4565. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drug industry has urged for reclassification of pharmaceutical raw materials ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No such representation has been received from the drug industry.

(d) Does not arise.

Railway Lines in backward hilly and tribal areas

4566. SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) Planning and programmes adopted by his Ministry to extend railway lines in backward hilly and tribal areas in 1978-79 and in Sixth Five Year Plan ; and