

The visit to Norway was at the invitation of the Norwegian Government. Matters concerning offshore development programme, offshore technology, maintenance system and related issues were discussed with the Norwegian Minister for Petroleum and Energy and the Minister for Industry. Opportunity was also taken to visit their on-shore and off-shore establishments to evaluate their relevance to our requirements. As the result of these discussions and observations many likely areas of cooperation were identified.

London was a transit station. However the opportunity was utilized in reviewing all pending matters on which action was called for at our High Commission's and.

Delay in finalising rolling stock of MTP in Calcutta

331. SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in finalising rolling stock for the MTP in Calcutta;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to overcome this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Meaning of 'Leader Products'

332. SHRI GOVINDA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the meaning of "leader product would be sought to be identified from the price notified for each formulation" as mentioned in the Statement laid on the Table of the House on 29th March, 1978; and

(b) why the option of the concerned leader product would be fixed in consultation with the manufacturer?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and

(b). It appears that the reference in the Question is to paragraph 52 of the Statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 29th March, 1978, which is reproduced below:—

"52. In so far as Category III is concerned, separate pricing for each producer will be done as was being done hitherto. However, wherever possible, on the basis of standard composition, 'leader products' would be sought to be identified here also and prices notified for such formulations, which may, at the option of the concerned manufacturers, be adopted by them, and under advice to the Government. The mark up for this Category will be a maximum of 100 per cent, the manufacturers being free to choose his own mark up upto limit of this ceiling."

The new policy envisages that leader prices of Category I and II products with mark up of 40 per cent and 55 per cent respectively will be worked out based on the cost of production of the major efficient producers of such formulations. Such prices will be notified in the Official Gazette from time to time. For Category III formulations separate pricing for each producer will be done by allowing mark ups not exceeding 100 per cent. While this would be the general procedure for Category III formulations, leader prices will be notified wherever possible, for these formulations also based on standard composition. Such prices can be adopted by the concerned manufacturers under advice to the Government. However, adoption of such leader prices for Category III formulations will not be obligatory on the manufacturers of such formulations, because (a) it may not always be possible to identify leader prices