Production and Import of Drugs

5178. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) what steps are being considered to help the drug units to produce their full capacity so that the drug shortage is overcome; and
- (b) whether Government have also decided to import drugs?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). Assistance required by the industry with regard to relieving of power shortages and supply of essential inputs is provided by Government. When constraints like shortage of critical raw materials, bulk drugs or packaging materials develop or are anticipated, steps are taken to arrange for necessary imports or to permit direct imports by actual users.

Gas connection in Karnataka State

5179. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

^{*(}Under Control Section)

- (a) whether it is a fact that gas connections in the State of Karnataka have not been sufficiently allotted;
- (b) if so, whether there is a large number of people who are on waiting list for the last many years;
- (c) if so, the main reason for not alloting more gas connections to the State;
- (d) what is the number of gas connections so far allotted in other States—State-wise;
- (e) whether any quota is fixed for each State for allotment; and
- (f) by what time gas connections will be allotted to the people in the

State who have registered up till the end of 1979?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes Sir. It has not been possible to allot gas connections to Karnataka as per the demand.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Release of gas connections in the State of Karnataka as well as in other States as per demand has not been possible due to limited product availability.
- (d) State-wise number of cooking gas connections released in the country upto 31-3-1980 is as under:—

nne of State/Union Territory													Total No. of Gas connec- tions release	
1													2	
J & K													19,460	
Assam													25,38	
Andhra Prad	t sh												1,97,965	
Bihar .													1,03,093	
Gujuat													3,37,779	
Ниаумпа													53,904	
Karnatakı;													1,22,15	
Himachal Pi	adesh	ı ,											5,35	
Kerala .													58,41	
Meghalava													3,130	
M anipur													1,26	
Mizoram													1,07	
Madhya Prac	desh												1,60,48	
Nagaland													2,40	
Orissa .													36,42	
Punjab .													55,10	
Rajasthan													, 51,20	
Sikkim .		٠						٠.					1,20	

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1									2
Tripura .					•				1,126
Uttar Pradesh									2,70,630
Tamil Nadu									2,13,321
Delhi (U.T.) .									3,13,521
Chandigarh (U.T.))	,							26,757
Pondicherry (U.T.))								5,641
West Bengal									1,73,149
Goa									12,150
Maharashtra .									8,95,377
						Tota	1:		31,47,569

⁽e) No. Sir.

(f) New gas connections on a significant scale are expected to be given from the beginning of 1981 with the commissioning of the facilities for extraction of Liquefied Petroleum Gas from Bombay High Associated Gas followed by additional availability of the product at Mathura and Koyali refineries. It is not possible to indicate precisely when all the people who are on waiting lists now would be given new connections.

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Long in Coal India Limited

5180. SHRI NIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to the loss of about 10 lakh mandays the production of coal worth over Rs. 52 crores was lost in Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during 1978-79;
- (b) if so, what was the financial loss involved as a result thereof; and
- (c) whether this huge mandays loss was unavoidable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) In 1978-79, 11.89 lakh mandays were lost in Coal

India Ltd. and its subsidiaries as a result of strikes. The estimated loss in coal production as a result thereof was 10.33 lakh tonnes which was valued at Rs. 6.64 crores at an average notified price of Rs. 64.71 a tonne.

- (b) Financial loss representing the difference between the sales revenue and the additional cost involved in producing this quantity of coal over and above the fixed cost is estimated at Rs. 3.5 crores.
- (c) Coal India have reported that all efforts were made to improve the industrial relations. However, loss of mandays mentioned in part (a), could not be avoided.

Proposal to set up Coal Field Protection Force

5181 SHRI NIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a coal field protection force to protect mines, installations and the employees of the coal companies; and
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard?