

**Suggestions by Inter-Ministerial Group on Pricing and Production of Drugs**

6997. SHRI B.D. SINGH :  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that with the existing drug policy the Sixth Plan targets for the production of bulk drugs are not likely to be achieved ; if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether Government propose any change in existing drug policy ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an inter Ministerial group set up in 1980 had made certain suggestions on pricing and maximising drug production ; if so what are the salient features thereof ; and

(c) what is the decision, if any taken by Government in respect of (b) above, if the answer be in the negative, what are the reasons for delay in taking a decision on the suggestions made by the inter-Ministerial Group ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) According to present trends, the production of drugs and pharmaceuticals is likely to fall short of the Sixth Plan targets. The targets had been anticipated on the basis of projections. In the light of actual demand during the last three years some of these targets are over-pitched or under-pitched and therefore need a mid-term review which is now being undertaken.

The Drug Policy provides adequately for growth of the drug industry. In this direction Government has taken several measures to enhance production. The facility of registration with DGTD has been made available to the drug industry. A large number of industrial approvals have been granted and their implementation is monitored and steps taken to resolve problems, if any. Steps are being taken to increase production of bulk drugs and formulations by the public sector by improving capacity utilization.

The scheme for automatic growth, recognition of installed capacity and re-endorse-

ment of higher capacity based on best Production performance have been extended to the drug industry subject to certain conditions.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. After July, 1980 an inter-Ministerial Task Force was set up with the following terms of reference :

(i) To study the existing policies in regard to pricing, production of bulk drugs and formulations and licensing of essential and formulations and to suggest measures for maximising production of essential and life saving drugs, ensuring economies of scale and reducing the number of formulations and multiple packings and to standardise packing materials ;

(ii) to examine the feasibility of reducing the number of drugs and formulations under price control ensuring however, supply of essential and life-saving drugs to consumers at a reasonable price ; and

(iii) to suggest any other measures relevant to the above objectives. The Task Force has since submitted its report. In the meanwhile number of representations have also been received for effecting changes in the New Drug Policy which was announced in March, 1978. An integrated view would be taken on all the issues.

**Bonded Labour**

6998. SHRI ZAINUL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target of rehabilitation of the bonded labourers is likely to be achieved during the year 1982-83 ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) and (b) For the year 1982-83, the State Governments had fixed a target for rehabilitation of 35,828 freed bonded labourers. According to the

latest reports available from the State Government, 34,026 freed bonded labourers had been rehabilitated upto 28 th February, 1983, The overall achievement during the 11 months of the financial year being 95%. At this rate, it is expected that the State Governments might have achieved the target for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers by 31st March, 1983.

**Dharna by Refugee Women Before Deputy Commissioner's Office at Karnal.**

6999. SHRI AJIT BAG : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of fast and dharna staged by about 60 refugee women from Bangladesh on 1 February, 1983 before Deputy Commissioner's Office at Karnal ;

(b) if so, what are their demands ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to meet their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Their demands mainly relate to their permanent rehabilitation, continuance of cash doles till then, enhancement of the rate of cash doles to Rs. 100/- per head per month, payment of arrears of cash doles deducted from them, carrying out repairs to the buildings of the Mahila Ashram. Karnal etc.

(c) The responsibility for maintenance and running of the Mahila Ashram, Karnal vests in the State Government. According to the report received from the State Government, payment of cash doles to the eligible families of the Ashram will continue till their rehabilitation, but deductions from the cash doles are made under the normal rules framed for running such institutions and, therefore, the amounts deducted from their doles cannot be paid to them. These families are at present being paid cash doles at the rate of Rs. 50/- per head per month, besides a sum of Rs. 10/- per head per month as clothing allowance. In addition, other faci-

lities like medical aid, education, electricity, water supply, residential accommodation etc. are being provided free of cost. It has also been reported that new buildings for housing the inmates of the Mahila Ashram are already under construction.

As regards rehabilitation of the families of the new migrants from former East Pakistan who have since become rehabilitable, the State Government has been requested to formulate a scheme for their resettlement in small trades/business according to the financial ceilings prescribed for the purpose.

**Strike in Bombay Textile Mills**

7000. SHRI N.E. HORO :  
SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the textile mills management in Bombay and adjacent areas are stopping willing workers and labour from joining duty by stalling their efforts and asking them to sign registers and by sending them away on one pretext or the other ;

(b) if so, what Government propose to do in the matter to ensure that the labour is not wasted, laid off or not given deserving work ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the interests of the workers of the mills who have been laid off are taken care of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Maharashtra, the extile workers willing to resume work are required by the mill managements to give individual undertakings for maintenance of discipline and normal production. The State Government have received some complaints regarding non-absorption of striking workers who desire to resume work. The State Government, have, therefore, appointed an informal Tripartite Committee with a representative each of the Bombay Mill Owners Association, the Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh and the State Labour Department to