

(a) the profits, investment, sale of six units of Ethambutol Manufacturers which were visited by the technical team of his Ministry during the last two years,

(b) the steps taken to bring down the price of Ethambutol particularly when it is available in the market at Rs. 600/-per kg. ; and

(c) whether it is not the policy of Government to provide Anti-TB drugs at cheap prices ; if so, the detailed reasons for not reducing the prices so far ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Available information is given in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c) The price of Ethambutol Hydrochloride has already been reduced from Rs. 750/-per kg. to Rs. 681 per kg. w.e.f. 19th July, 1984. Market price is only of the indicators and may not fully reflect the true cost of production. This price reduction would benefit poor T.B. patients.

#### Statement

Sl.	Name of the Company	Sales-Turnover		Investment in fixed assets		Profit before tax	
		1981-82	1982-83	1981-82	1982-83	1981-82	1982-83
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	M/s. Dexo Labs (Co.'s year ending October 1983)	N.A.	591.20	N.A.	55.88	N.A.	11.75
2.	M/s. Themis Chemicals Limited (Year ending June)	640.80	824.78	122.27	134.67	15.94	9.94
3.	M/s. Lupin Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. (Year ending June)	949.64	1410.11	312.60	460.42	76.22	171.94

**Inquiry into the Procurement of Useless Paper by Delhi Telephones Through D.G.S.&D.**

2316. SHRI B.D. SINGH :  
SHRI TRILOK CHAND :  
SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH  
YADAV :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of paper produced by the Delhi Telephones through the DGS&D is lying unused being useless ;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the quantity (with value) of the paper, lying unused ; and

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the procurement of useless

paper for the purpose of fixing responsibility, if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, 422 Metric tons of white creamwove paper costing nearly Rs. 34.5 lakhs, which was procured through the D. G. S. & D, has been found unsuitable for printing the Delhi Telephone Directory on high speed web offset printing machine.

(c) The matter is under examination. The D.G. S&D have been addressed to get this paper replaced by the supplier.

#### U.K. Co-Operation in Strengthening Off-Shore Oil Industry

2317. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI :  
SHRI B.V. DESAI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has sought the co-operation of United Kingdom in strengthening off-shore oil industry in the country,

(b) if so, the response of United Kingdom in launching joint programme in off-shore oil industry ; and

(c) the details of the programme of Indo-U.K. joint co-operation in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The British Government has suggested setting up of a Joint Indo-British Group on oil and gas for further co-operation between the two countries. We have responded positively to this suggestion. Details about areas of cooperation are being worked out.

#### Exploitation of Oil in Mahanadi Basin

2318. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the investment made by Government for the exploitation of oil in the Mahanadi basin, Orissa.

(b) whether some more areas adjoining Mahanadi basin have been surveyed ;

(c) if so, the details of the oil deposits discovered according to the last assessment ;

(d) the amount earmarked in Sixth Plan for the oil exploration programme in Mahanadi basin, Orissa ; and

(e) the steps taken for the proper exploitation of oil in that basin of Orissa and the adjoining areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) Approx. Rs. 90 crores.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, but no commercial discoveries have been made so far.

(d) Rs. 123.32 crores.

(e) Out of the six wells planned to be drilled in the Mahanadi basin three wells have been drilled and the fourth is under drilling. Exploratory drilling in the adjoining North-East Coast area is also expected to be taken up on the basis of the seismic survey already completed. The seismic data acquired in the onshore Mahanadi Basin has been processed, interpreted and four drilling locations have been identified for exploratory drilling out of which two are proposed to be drilled in 1984-85.