

as per agreement entered into in May 1959.

(b) Yes. The reasons for the losses being (i) the company has not yet reached its full rated capacity (ii) it has suffered from certain technological difficulties including lower efficiencies, yields and deficiencies in the equipment ; and (iii) difficulties in the marketing of the products due to the availability for some time of imported drugs at cheaper prices.

(c) The following steps are being taken by the company to overcome the losses :

- (i) The company's efforts are now concentrated on attaining rated capacities and achieving the norms of production and consumption as indicated by the collaborators within the time stipulated therefor. These efforts are intended to stabilise the production of antibiotics and synthetic drugs and bring down the costs to the level of standard estimates ;
- (ii) With a view to obtain lower costs by attaining the economies of scale, the capacities are being enhanced for phenacetin, sulphanilamide, analgin, amidopyrin, vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Folic acid and phenobarbitone, by marginal additions of equipments.
- (iii) Production of new drugs like paracetamol, and PAS for production with the available facilities of the Synthetic Drugs plant ;
- (iv) In the surgical instruments plant, efforts are continuing to increase the order level both for the existing product mix and newly developed instruments at the plant and also for job orders with a view to utilise fully the capacity.
- (v) Distribution of drugs imported by the STC and which are in the programme of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd at pooled prices in order to remove the duality of the prices operating to the detriment of indigenous producers.

Proposal to set up a Public Sector Project for the Manufacture of Various Types of Toilet, Laundry and Carbo-lic Soaps

1798. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices have completed the study of the question of soap prices and the profitability of this industry ;

(b) whether it is proposed to set up a public sector project for the manufacture of various types of toilet, laundry and carbo-lic soaps with a view to make available good quality soaps at reasonable price to the average consumer ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of India do not have any proposal at present for setting up a central public sector unit for manufacture of various types of soaps. However, two State Government undertakings, one in Mysore and the other in Kerala, are already engaged in the production of soap. A letter of intent has also been issued to the Punjab Industrial Development Corporation for the manufacture of Toilet Soap.

Losses suffered by Indian Airlines

1799. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :
SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether after joining of some senior officers in the Personnel Department of Indian Airlines, New Delhi, Indian Airlines have been constantly incurring losses due to their negligence ; and

(b) whether Government propose to hold an inquiry through C.B.I. for the causes of such losses ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drugs and Pharmaceuticals imported during the last three years

1800. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of the drugs and pharmaceuticals of large and medium scale imported during the last three years ; and

(b) the efforts made to increase the indigenous production of these items and replace the imported intermediates and chemicals by indigenous material ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) Separate figures for imports of drugs and pharmaceuticals by large and medium-scale units are not available. However, the total value of drugs and pharmaceuticals including drug intermediates imported during the last three years were as under :

1968-69	—	Rs. 24.05 crores
1969-70	—	Rs. 26.19 crores
1970-71	—	Rs 27.87 crores

(b) All possible assistance is being given to the drugs and pharmaceutical industry for taking up production of bulk drugs, as well as their intermediates, from indigenous raw materials wherever practicable, with a view to eliminating/reducing the dependence on imports. Further, parties applying for licences for production of formulations based on imported bulk drugs are advised to undertake the production of the concerned drugs on a phased basis.

भारतीय वायु सेना के विमानों का दुर्घटना प्रस्त होना

1801. श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी :
श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत 6 महीनों में भारतीय वायु सेना के कितने विमान दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुए और ये दुर्घटनायें किन किन स्थानों पर हुईं और इसके परिणामस्वरूप जान और माल की कितनी हानि हुई ; और

(ख) मृतकों के नाम और पते क्या हैं, प्रत्येक मामले में की गई जांच के क्या परिणाम निकले और इस संबंध में क्या प्रभावी कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : (क) और (ख). इस सूचना का दिया जाना लोकहित में नहीं होगा। ऐसी सूचना सामान्य तौर पर दूसरे देशों द्वारा भी नहीं दी जाती है। पिछले कुछ वर्षों से हमारी कुल दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या में कमी होती रही है।

प्रत्येक दुर्घटना की अदालत द्वारा जांच की जाती है। उपयुक्त कार्यवाही की जाती है और उपचारिक कदम भी उठाये जाते हैं।

Rules on Foreign Travel Tax

1802. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have circulated the draft rules on foreign travel tax to the airlines and shipping companies and travel agents ;

(b) whether any suggestions in this regard have been received from the airlines and shipping firms and travel agents ;