

expediting the implementation of power projects as well as stepping up the operational efficiency of the power plants and systems.

(b) The proposals referred in reply to (a) above have been evolved after a study of the reasons for shortfalls in the past performance.

(c) The question has been discussed at various inter-departmental meetings and definite proposals in this regard have been evolved which are under the active consideration of the Central Government. These will also be discussed with the State Governments before they are finalised and implemented.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Ten Years prospective plan for crude Reserve

2643. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the main features of the 'Ten Years Prospecting Plan' for the crude reserve in the country;

(b) total amount earmarked in the Fifth Five Year Plan;

(c) in view of the Present hike in oil prices whether Government consider that the amount earmarked therein will meet the requirement of the crude; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) An Indo-Soviet team of experts drew up a realistic programme of work for the first 5 year period and a broad programme of work for the subsequent 5 year period in September, 1971. The first 5 Year Plan programme has been suitably integrated with the 5th Five Year Plan programme of the ONGC and projections have been made for the subsequent 5 years. The main features of the Fifth Plan are the establishment of re-

coverable reserve of 70 million tonnes during the 5th Five Year Plan and 132 million tonnes in the subsequent 5 years.

(b) to (d). At present the amount marked for the ONGC for the Fifth Five Year Plan Period is Rs. 697.42 crores. This is considered adequate to achieve an annual rate of production of 8.42 million tonnes of crude per annum by 1978-79. If, however, the commercial viability of the recent discovery at Bombay High is established, then provision for more funds in order to enable quick exploitation of this area will have to be made. Details can only be worked out after more information about this structure becomes available.

Investment of Foreign Drug Firms with more than 26 per cent Foreign Equity

2644. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) What is the investment of foreign drugs firms (exceeding 26 per cent foreign equity) and the total sales during the last three years as also their total investment in bulk drugs, according to international value;

(b) whether it is a fact that applications of foreign firms for benefits like permission letters, COB Licences and diversification are screened without delay; and

(c) if so, whether Government intend to consider giving a free hand to Indian drugs industry, whose investment in bulk drugs is over 20 per cent of the sales to manufacture bulk drugs and impose a ban on foreign firms whose investment in bulk drugs is about 60 per cent of their sales for basic manufacturing and other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) A statement showing the names of firms with foreign equity exceeding 26 per cent manufacturing drugs and pharmaceuticals etc., their present equity

and turnover in the last three years is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6393/74]. Figures of their total investment in bulk drugs separately are not available.

(b) No permission letters are being issued by the Ministry since 1966. Diversification is governed by the Government policy as might be in force from time to time. No preference is shown by way of speed in screening of applications of foreign firms for COB or other industrial licences.

(c) The steps taken by Government to encourage the Indian Sector and regulate the working of foreign firms have been furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 dated 27th November, 1973.

Expert Body Report on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals

2645 SHRI IYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Expert Body Report on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals has been received by Government;

(b) if so, on what date;

(c) the main findings and recommendations of the Expert Body; and

(d) when the report will be placed before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Perhaps the reference is to the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices to examine the cost structure of 24 bulk drugs. The report of the Group was received in four parts between April and October, 1972.

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the Group are still under consideration.

Casual Labour Engaged in Loading of Coal

2646. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the non-availability of coal and wagons in time, the casual labourers have to wait and their time is wasted;

(b) whether Government propose to give work to the casual labourers for the full week and to pay them wages for the full week; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

One Union for Railways

2647. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reaction of the Central Trade Unions to Government's decision about having one Union for Railways; and

(b) the criteria proposed to be laid down for creating recognition to the Union?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). In the Conference on Labour Relations held by Minister for Railways on 4-2-1974, with the leaders of the All India Railwaymen's Federation and the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen and four Central Trade Union organisations, a general consensus emerged that there should be only one union which should be broad based and popular enough to represent all Crafts and Categories of Railway workers.