

Plan to Boost the Production of Basic Drugs

2648. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a plan to boost the production of life saving basic drugs to make them available at reasonable prices; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The present annual indigenous output of the bulk drugs in the country is worth about Rs. 50 crores, which is proposed to be increased to about Rs. 200 crores by the end of the Fifth Plan period. A provision of Rs. 70 crores has been proposed in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan to expand the public sector drug production. Discussions have been held by the Ministry with Associations of the drug industry so that the companies in the private sector may come forward with applications for necessary industrial licences etc. Increased production will ensure availability of drugs in adequate measure. The prices of drugs are controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 to ensure that those are available to the consumers at reasonable prices.

Sale of Crude Oil by Iran to Pakistan at cheaper rates than to India

2649. SHRI VEKARIA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL :

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

(a) whether sale of crude oil to Pakistan by Iran is at a lower rate than the rate at which it is being sold to India;

(b) if so, whether Government of India have brought this to the notice of Iran; and

(c) if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Government have no precise information regarding the terms and conditions for the supply of crude oil from Iran to Pakistan.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Railway Administration's study on impact of oil crisis on future working of Railways

2650 SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railway administration has made a study of the impact of the oil crisis on the future working of the railways;

(b) if so, what are the operational areas where changes need to be introduced; and

(c) when will they be implemented without risking efficiency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Changes proposed are :

(i) Retention in service of old steam locomotives; and

(ii) Extension of electric traction at a faster pace.

(c) Implementation of these proposals has commenced and will be a continuous process.

श्रीपथ बनाने वाली देशी तथा विदेशी
कम्पनियों और उनका उत्पादन

2651. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : क्या
पेट्रोमिडियम और रस्ताइन मंत्री यह बनाने की छुपा
करेंगे कि .

(क) देश में श्रीपथ बनाने वाली प्रमुख
देशी तथा विदेशी कम्पनियों के नाम क्या हैं ;
और