

(c) steps being taken to improve the traffic; and

(d) the loss on passenger and goods traffic suffered by the Railways during these months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) As compared to the first quarter of 1974-75 there is an increase in both passenger and goods traffic in the second quarter.

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

Directive to drug units to strengthen facilities for research and development

353. SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

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

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the large drugs and pharmaceutical units to set up facilities for research in development process and reduction in production costs;

(b) if so, whether the Units have also been asked to strengthen their research and development base for reducing import of technology and improvement in quality control;

(c) whether any other instructions have been issued to these Units to boost research base; and

(d) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The concerned drug manufacturing units have been advised as follows:—

(i) Industrial units with a turnover between Rs. 1 to Rs. 6 crores per annum should establish full-fledged formulation and packaging development laboratories with facilities for toxicological and bio-avail-

ability studies and process improvement measures;

(ii) Units with turnover of Rs. 6 crores and above should set up their own facilities for the above purpose and also for development of design, engineering and scale up activities;

(iii) Large units with turnover of Rs. 10 crores and above should establish their own full-fledged research centres with full facilities for progressive and innovational types of programmes as well.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Scarcity of certain drugs in the country

354. SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:
SARDAR MOHINDER SINGH GILL:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a near famine of sulphur drugs, antibiotics and vitamin preparations in the country particularly in Delhi for some time past;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that chemists fear worse in the coming months;

(c) whether manufacturers plead that they are not getting adequate supplies of raw materials from Government agencies; if so, steps being taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether manufacturers are not marketing their products due to the revision of prices of certain drugs proposed to be made by his Ministry; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R.