

(b) C.I.F. price of crude Rutin mentioned in the import application dated 1-8-1974 of M/s. E. Merck (I) Pvt. Ltd. has been indicated at Rs. 124 per kg. Based on the statistics maintained by D.G.H.S. the average c.i.f. price of Rutin (Vitamin P) during the year 1973-74 works out to Rs. 142.80 per kg.

M/s. E. Merck (I) Pvt. Ltd. are licensed to manufacture Rutin based on the import of crude Rutin and as such import of raw Rutin is being permitted to this party. This party was, however, asked to explore the possibilities of producing Rutin from basic stages and submit phased programme in this regard. They have since submitted this programme.

**Running of trains without guards and Brake-vans after the Railway strike**

4807 SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the last strike the Divisional Authorities have started running the trains, specially goods trains without guards and brake vans:

(b) whether by doing so the divisional authorities are violating the "safety-rules"; and

(c) if so, whether any action is being contemplated against such authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Trains are not normally run without guards or brake vans. Under special instructions however, trains can be run without guards or brake vans in inescapable circumstances, which is permissible under the extant rules.

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

**Shortage of Mutton Tallow for Soap Industry**

4808. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH  
RAO:  
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH  
MALIK:

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

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of mutton tallow in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the shortage is causing a serious set back to the soap industry in the country; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to remove the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). In so far as the organised sector is concerned the question of shortage of mutton tallow does not arise as a decision has been taken that no further import of tallow for manufacturing the soap will be made. In regard to small scale sector, it has been decided that about 20,000 tonnes of tallow per annum may be imported for the present and the use of tallow phased out to eliminate import within the next two years. No shortage of mutton tallow for manufacturing the soap by small scale sector has been reported.

(d) Does not arise.

**Arbitration Award for reinstatement of certain employees of IDPL**

4809. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arbitration Award given by the Union Labour Minister regarding reinstatement of 12 employees of I.D.P.L., Rishikesh has not been accepted and implemented by the I.D.P.L. authorities;

(b) whether the then Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals had agreed to implement this award;

(c) if so, the reasons for not implementing this award and whether there is a growing discontentment among the employees; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to get the award implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d). The decision of the Union Labour Minister regarding reinstatement of 12 employees of I.D.P.L., Rishikesh was accepted by the former Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals and was communicated to the Management of the Company in June, 1974. It is yet to be implemented by the Management of the Company.

A number of meetings with workers' Union have already taken place on this matter and other demands. Another meeting with the Management and the Workers Union is proposed to be held to find out ways and means of implementing the decision and to decide upon a package of agreement.

**Conversion of Mysore-Bangalore metre gauge line into broad gauge**

4810. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to convert the Railway line between Mysore and Bangalore in the Southern Railway from metre gauge to broad gauge;

(b) if so, the reasons why the work has not been started; and

(c) if the decision is not yet taken, when it is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). Survey

reports for this conversion project are under examination. A decision will be taken after the reports have been examined from all angles and subject to availability of funds.

**Shortage of drugs**

4811. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons underlying the present drug shortage being experienced, even in key drugs, marketed under brand names of multinationals;

(b) where production is wholly indigenous. What measures are being taken to ensure that their supplies do not fall short of requirements, and whether any production programme, revision of selling prices of drugs, granting of licences to expand the output of existing items and manufacture of new items etc. have been drawn up; and

(c) in the case of imported bulk supplies of drugs, whether STC has been able to obtain them to meet the required demands, if not, whether he multinationals would be permitted to use their contacts to make available the supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) There is no general shortage of essential drugs in the country. Reports of occasional shortages of certain drugs, mainly proprietary branded preparations manufactured by Indian Companies, foreign companies and large houses, are received in the Ministry from State Drugs Controllers from time to time. For these, similar preparations of other manufacturers are usually available. While allowing licenced capacities for formulations to drug manufacturing units, the over-all demand for a particular type of drug concerned and not its brand name, are kept in view. This could lead to shortages of certain branded products.