

check the manufacture of spurious drugs.

(c) Enquiry is being conducted by the State Criminal Investigation Department.

Wages and working conditions of employees in E.S.I.C.

1545. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to modify the wages and working conditions of the employees working in the Employees' State Insurance Corporation;

(b) whether the Job Evaluation Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, whether a copy of the Report will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): The Employees' State Insurance Corporation have furnished the following information:

(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Thailand to set up Naval Base in Andaman Sea

1546 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as reported by the All India Radio on the 13th September, 1974, Thailand has decided to set up a naval base in the Andaman sea; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). Government have no confirmation of this report.

Drugs for V.I.Ps.

1547. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published by a New Delhi daily in its issue dated the 24th September, 1974 under the caption "Drugs for V.I.Ps. and not others"; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Yes.

(b) It is a fact that Hospitals in Delhi have been experiencing shortage of drugs from time to time. The reasons for shortage were:—

1. Inadequate import licences issued to manufacturers, for import of drugs.
2. Non-availability of glass vials.
3. Non-supply of items like Ammonium Sulphate by the Fertilizer Corporation of India.
4. Inadequate supply of certain canalised items.
5. Non-availability/limited availability of drugs in the international market.

This matter was discussed with all appropriate authorities and the following decisions were taken:—

- (1) The Department of Economic Affairs have agreed to issue additional licences for import of life-saving drugs in short supply.
- (2) Steps have been taken to augment the supply of Glass vials.
- (3) The Ministry of Food and Agriculture have agreed to