

legal assistance at the cost of Government to members of backward classes whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 1800/- in civil proceedings or criminal proceedings or proceedings under the Mamlat dar's Courts Act, 1908, which come in appeal or revision in the Bombay High Court against the decisions of the lower courts in areas outside Greater Bombay.

Attempt made by the House of Birlas to take over Shaw Wallace and Co.

7918. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received a communication from the All India Shaw Wallace Employees Federation in regard to the attempt that is being made by the House of Birlas to take over the Company;

(b) how far India Steamship Company's case of foreign exchange rules violation is connected with Shaw Wallace take over bid in London; and

(c) the action taken by the Company Affairs Ministry to prevent the take over of this important Company by the Monopoly house of Birla?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department has no information.

(c) While the Company Law Board has no information regarding the alleged take over bid, it may be indicated that the Company Law Board had on 18-12-1972 passed an order under section 250(4) of the Companies Act, 1956 directing that any transfer of equity shares in the Company held by M/s R. G. Shaw & Co. Ltd., M/s. Shaw Darby & Co. Ltd, M/s. Shaw Scott. & Co, Ltd, and M/s Thames Rice Milling Co. Ltd., shall be void for a period of three years.

Increasing Production Capacities by Drug Firms

7919. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names for drug firms which have increased their production capacities during the last three years; and

(b) the broad outlines of cases wherein they have been regularised and the actions taken against the non-regularised units? -

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

(a) and (b), The information regarding additions made by various drug firms in the organised sector to their production capacities during the last three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. The question of excess production of drugs will be examined in the light of recommendations contained in the report submitted by Hathi Committee on 6-4-1975.

Proposal to set up Regional Laboratories

7920. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up regional laboratories in the country to help small drug units; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Task Force on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals set up by the Planning Commission had recommended in its report submitted in 1973, that to assist industrial units, with a turnover of less than Rs. 1 crore/annum, five national laboratories should be set up to help develop their own formulations test them for toxicity and bio-