

from Government service; and their appointment in those firms was a sort of reward for showing them favours during the period they were in service;

(b) the names and other particulars like firms, salaries and perquisites of retired Government officials who have joined drug manufacturing companies during the last three years;

(c) whether the retired Government officials joined their new assignments with the approval of Government; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against these officers and the companies?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P C SETHI): (a) to (d). No complaints of this nature have been received in Min of C. & F. However, the employment of retired civil servants in private companies is governed by regulations under which such retired civil servants are required to obtain prior permission of Govt. If they accept such employment within a period of two years from the date of retirement, the cases are considered by the appropriate cadre authorities. Statistics of retired persons working in different companies are not being maintained.

New Formula regarding Manufacturing of Bulk Drugs

3292. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state.

(a) whether a new formula about parting with 66 per cent production of bulk drugs has been initiated for Indian firms, if so, the salient features thereof; and

(b) has this new formula not come as another hindrance in the way of progress of Indian drug manufacturing units?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No; Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Suggestions for Mid Sea Lightering of Crude at Cochin Refinery

3293. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry made any suggestion of mid-sea lightering of crude at Cochin for the use of Cochin Refinery; and

(b) if so, what are the suggestions and how far is it feasible?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b). Govt. have a proposal for an integrated crude lightering programme on all India basis for the use of all refineries including Cochin Refineries Ltd. As the implementation of the proposal depends upon various factors, it may take some time before a final decision is taken in the matter.

Review of Uneconomic Railway Lines Survey Report

3294. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether it is proposed to review the Report of the Committee on uneconomic railway lines survey in the light of new data available during the period when the report was submitted and now?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): It is not proposed to review the Report of the Committee as such, but the performance and functioning of uneconomic railway lines is subjected to review from time to time.

Land for Howrah Sheakhala Railway Line

3295. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal Government had agreed to provide land for Howrah-Sheakhala Railway Line;

(b) whether the land has been made available;

(c) the particulars of the work done upto the date on this line; and

(d) when will the work be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) Steps have been taken to acquire the land.

(c) Final Location Survey for the line has been completed and construction work will be taken up with the limited funds which are available after the land is acquired.

(d) The work is likely to be completed in about 3 years after its being started.

Remodelling of Sealdah Station

3296. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sealdah Station is being remodelled;

(b) if so, the work done upto date; and

(c) when will the work be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). The work of remodelling Sealdah Station was taken up in 1960-61, in three phases of which two phases involving yard remodelling and provision of route relay inter-locking cabin have already been completed. All the works in the third phase i.e. construction of RMS, Pay and Cash Office, raising and paving of platforms etc. have also been completed and brought into use except the work of construction of new station building which has been substantially completed.

(c) The entire work is likely to be completed during 1977-78.

Re-Constitution of National Railway Users Consultative Committee

3298. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Railway Users Consultative Committee has been reconstituted; and

(b) if so, the names of its members?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10778/76.]

Complaints regarding overcharging of Drug Prices

3299. SHRI ARJUN SETHI. Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received by Government that drugs are not easily available and are being sold to consumers by retailers at prices much higher than labelled by the manufacturers under one pretext or the other; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps so as to make the drugs available to the consumers at fixed prices?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). No complaints of acute or general shortage of drugs have been received. However, complaints of shortage of some individual preparations are received from the State Drug Controllers from time to time. In order to ensure adequate supply of drugs, periodical meetings are held in the Ministry to review the reports of shortages/availability. Whenever instances of shortages come