पैट्रोलियम तथा रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री रघुरमैया): (क) मामला

परीक्षाधीन है।

(ख) ग्रीर (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Prices of Goods Produced by M/s. Sarabhai Chemicals

5574. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the prices of the consumer goods produced by M/s. Sarabhai Chemicals are much higher than the prices of similar goods produced by other companies; and
- (b) if so, whether Government would taken action to remove this difference in the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU-RAMAIAH): (a) It is presumed that the question seeks information about the pharmaceuticals produced by the company. The retail prices of these items are comparable with those of other companies.

(b) Does not arise.

## PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

5575. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total investment made in the public undertakings at present;
- (b) whether it is a fact that orders worth crores of rupees are being cancelled every year because of poor quality of manufacture in these undertakings;
- (c) if so, the amount of orders cancelled during the last five years; and
- (d) the steps which are being taken to improve the quality of goods?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER & MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) The investment in Central Government industrial and commercial undertakings as at the end of 1966-67, the latest year for which the accounts of all the enterprises are available, was Rs. 2,841 crores.

- (b) and (c). Since orders for products once placed by prospective buyers may be cancelled for various reasons such as availability of other substitute products for their requirements, the requirements not materialising at all, etc., including possibly a subsequent appreciation of the quality of the products in question, it may not be possible to obtain the figures of orders cancelled because of poor quality of manufacture alone except to the extent that this arises out of a specific Clause in the contract between the two parties. However, information to the extent possible is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.
- (d) The need for improving the quality of goods manufactured is engaging constant attention of the respective managements.

MISUSE OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS BY FIRMS

5576. SHRI JOTIRMOY BASU:
SHRI R. BARUA:
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI N. R. LASKAR:
SHRI CHENGALRAYA

NAIDU:

SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN:

Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he reported on the 27th July, 1968 to the Purchase Advisory Council a few cases wherein certain unscrupulous firms had misused the facilities of advance payments admissible in terms of the general conditions of contract with the Directorate General, Supplies and Disposals;