

Depending on the economic viability of the Project as assessed from the Detailed Project Report, a decision on implementing the project will be taken.

Advertisement of Contraceptives

4357. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are patronising certain varieties of contraceptives and are discouraging or discriminating against manufacture of other varieties;

(b) if not, the reason for not permitting advertisement of contraceptive pills in the country while other forms of contraceptives are being advertised on a lavish scale; and

(c) whether some vested interests are playing a part in this policy of discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) No.

(b) The advertisement of drugs is regulated under the "The Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954" and the Rules there-under. The advertisement of contraceptives is normally not permitted. In 1966 the marketing of oral contraceptives was approved according to certain preconditions, specially the following:—

- (i) The retail sale of the oral contraceptives shall be effected only on the prescription of a registered medical practitioner; and
- (ii) No advertisements of oral contraceptives in the lay press will be permitted.

In view of this the Government decided not to permit the advertisement of contraceptive pills specially in the lay press. This is because, it was feared that the public might use the pill without consulting a doctor.

(c) Does not arise.

Application for Soda Ash Plant by Companies Other than Tata Chemicals

4358. SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI:
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS:
SHRI K. RAMANI:
SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN:
SHRI UMANATH:
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:
SHRI NAMBIAR:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:
SHRI PASHABHAI PATEL:
SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE:

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

(a) whether any other company, except Tata Chemicals, had applied for licence in the field of soda ash plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for giving priority for expansion to Tata Chemicals over others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes.

(b) Messrs. Saurashtra Chemicals, Porbandar, applied for an industrial licence for effecting substantial expansion to their soda ash capacity from 500 tonnes/day to 800 tonnes/day at an estimated capital outlay of Rs. 459 lakhs with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 70.50 lakhs.

(c) The application of M/s. Saurashtra Chemicals was received after a decision was taken on the application of Messrs. Tata Chemicals. There was, therefore, no question of priority but the latter was considered as it was received earlier.

West German Investment in India

4359. SHRI N. K. SOMANI:
SHRI MEETHA LAL MEENA:
SHRI A. DIPA:
SHRI D. AMAT:
SHRI C. MUTHUSAMI:
SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: