

On account of reduction in customs duty, domestic caprolactum manufacturers may have to face stiffer competition from imports. However, petro-chemical products are not covered under any administered price control system, therefore, their prices may have to be determined by market forces keeping in view the demand supply position.

Wagon Utilisation

4969. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI RAM SAGAR,
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA
MEHTA.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wagon utilisation on the broad gauge was not put to optimum utilisation consequent to which the loss was suffered by the Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons for not fully utilising the wagon capacity on the broad gauge by the Railways;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General and others Consultative and Advisory bodies had recommended for making the optimum use of wagon capacity; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to put the wagons to optimum utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report for the year 1995 has commented upon the wagon utilisation on Indian Railways for the period 1990-91 to 1993-94. Year wise details from 1990-91 to 1995-96 in respect of wagon utilisation indices viz., NTKM/wagon day, wagon Kilometre/wagon day and wagon turnaround are as under:

Year	NTKM/wagon day	%Variation	Wagon Km./Wagon day	%Variation
1990-91	1407		110.5	
1991-92	1439	2.3	113.2	3.5
1992-93	1457	1.2	116.4	2.4
1993-94	1505	3.3	125.0	7.4
1994-95	1590	5.6	138.5	10.8
1995-96	1754	10.3	148.1	6.9

Year	Wagon Turnaround	%Variation
1990-91	11.50	
1991-92	11.10	3.5
1992-93	10.83	2.4

Year	Wagon Turnaround	%Variation
1993-94	10.59	2.2
1994-95	9.89	6.6
1995-96	9.07	8.3

Improvement in wagon utilisation indices after 1993-94 has seen a quantum jump as compared to previous years. Continuous efforts are being made such as improving terminal management seeking cooperation of major users, cutting down avoidable delays and augmenting infrastructure inputs as may be necessary.

[Translation]

Ban on Communal Organisations

4969. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose a ban on the communal organisations and political parties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to check the communal forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Attention of the State Governments, which are primarily concerned with the maintenance of 'Public Order' is drawn, from time to time, for taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred or disharmony between members of different communities as per provisions of various laws. The Central Government have also issued guidelines to the State Governments for promotion of communal harmony. The Central Government also assists the State Governments by sharing the intelligence and providing Central Para-military Forces as per requirement.

Poultry Complex Scheme

4970. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have sent some proposals to the Union Government for clearance under the Poultry Complex Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposals received from the State Governments are under consideration.

[English]

Grant of Statehood to Uttarakhand

4971. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a bill in the current session for according Statehood to Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether similar demands have been received from other States also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Article 3 of the Constitution of India provides, inter alia, that Parliament may by law form a new State by separation of territory from any State, provided that no Bill for the purpose shall be introduced in either House of Parliament except on the recommendation of the President and unless, where the proposal contained in the Bill affects the area, boundaries or name of any of the States, the Bill has been referred by the President to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon. Uttarakhand is to be carved out of the existing State of Uttar Pradesh. Appropriate action will be taken when the Legislative Assembly of State of Uttar Pradesh is reconstituted after the forthcoming elections.

(d) and (e) A resolution for the formation of a separate State of Chhattisgarh passed by the Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh in March, 1994 has been received in the Government of India.

Patta on Forest Land

4972. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from Government of Kerala for getting permission for distribution of pattas on forest land to the local people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) The State Government of Kerala had furnished a proposal under the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 28,588.159 ha. of forest land for regularisation of pre 1.1.1977 encroachments taken place over forest land in Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Ernakulam and Kollam districts of the State. Formal approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to the above mentioned proposal of the State Government has already been accorded on 31.1.1995.

Penicillin-G and Rifampicin

4973. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA T.: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Penicillin-G and Rifampicin imported during the last two years, year-wise/product-wise;

(b) whether these are available in the country;

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of domestic industry manufacturing these items; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a)	Penicillin-G	
	Quantity	Value
1994-95	10905 kg	Rs. 1,13,89,114
1995-96 (upto Sept '95 only)	221.72 kg	Rs. 4,59,736
	Rifampicin	
	Quantity	Value
1994-95	23509 kg	Rs. 5,61,65,295
1995-96 (upto Sept '95 only)	5475 kg	Rs. 1,55,74,288

(SOURCE: DGHS)

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) and (d) Both Penicillin-G and Rifampicin continue to be in the negative list of imports. As per the Penicillin-G and Rifampicin Policy for 1996-97 announced on 13th August, 1996, the import of both the drugs earlier linked to quantum of indigenous lifting has been done away with.

[Translation]

Hindi in Departmental Examinations

4974. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been provision for exercising option to write answers in Hindi in the Departmental examinations.