

### **Closure of Plastic Processing units**

2091. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether plastic processing units are getting closed down due to sharp escalation in naphtha prices accompanied by short supply of raw plastic materials; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) and (b). In order to cope with the consequences on the Gulf crisis, Government imposed a gulf surcharge of 25% on petroleum products including Naptha, which is a major feedstock for the production of Polymers used by the plastic processing units. This has resulted in an increase in the price of Polymers.

About 50% of the total requirement of Polymers is imported and due to the gulf crisis, international prices and availability of polymers has become difficult. As a result, there are some shortages in the market. Domestic producers have been asked to maximise their production.

### **Foreign Drug units**

2092. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the Hindustan Times', Delhi dated November, 21, 1990 under the caption "Foreign drug units pressurizing India";

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to safeguard the domestic drug industry particularly the small scale industry and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The existing drug policy of the Government already provides adequate safeguards to the domestic drug industry. While there are no restrictions on production and supply of drugs by the Small Scale Sector units, the permissible list of drugs and conditions of production and supply stipulated in the Drug Policy for Indian companies in the organised sector are more favourable than those stipulated for FERA units.

[*Translation*]

### **Transfer of Sanan Project**

2093. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government have requested the Union Government to transfer the Sanan Project from Punjab Government to Himachal Pradesh Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) to (c). The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has agreed not to pursue its request for the transfer of Joginder Nagar (Shanan) Power House.