

their application. The company did not choose to make any representation.

The question of shifting of the company's proposed plant from Karnāṭaka to Uttar Pradesh does not arise as the company had made two separate applications—first in September, 1983 for location in Uttar Pradesh and then in April, 1984 for location in Karnāṭaka.

Lok Adalat

***17. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Lok Adalat" for accident claims was opened in Bombay by MR. JUSTICE P.N. BHAGWATI, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Lok Adalat is less expensive than the other courts in the legal system; and

(c) the details, thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A.K. SEN) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by the Government, a "Lok Adalat" for accident claims was inaugurated in Bombay on 15th June, 1985 by Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati, who is the present Chief Justice of India. Two panels of Lok Adalat were formed which were to consider 90 claims cases. Out of these, 69 cases were settled and compensation amounting to Rs. 12,16,000/- was awarded. In the remaining 21 cases advocates were not present in 17 cases and in four others, the parties did not accept the award of Lok Adalat and preferred to go to the Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal.

(b) and (c). The Adalat is not a statutory court. It is a voluntary settlement agency which is designed to bring about reconciliation between the parties by persuasive methods and the decision taken or settlement arrived at the Lok Adalat is to the satisfaction of both the parties unlike the decisions taken by ordinary courts.

Custom Duty Structure on Drug Intermediates

***18. SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU :
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :**

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the press reports that the Custom Duty structure on drug intermediates is as high as 135 per cent while on the final drug manufactured from the same intermediates, custom duty is 100 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how does this encourage production of drugs from intermediate stages?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c). In general imports of bulk drugs carry a basic duty of 60% ad-valorem and auxiliary duty of 40% ad-valorem (total duty of 100% ad-valorem). Similarly, import of chemicals including drug intermediates carry a basic duty of 70% ad-valorem, auxiliary duty of 40% ad-valorem and counter-vailing duty of 12% (total duty of 135.2% ad-valorem). However, several bulk drugs and drug intermediates are levied concessional rates of custom duty. Counter-vailing duty in case of eight drug intermediates which are exclusively used for the production of bulk drugs has been withdrawn. Duty structure is constantly reviewed for rectification of anomalies coming to notice.

Finalisation of electoral rolls in Assam

***19. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the electoral rolls in Assam State for the purpose of holding State Assembly and Lok Sabha elections in that State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?