

Setting up a Plant for Drugs in Rajasthan

10721. CH. HARI RAM MAKKA-SAR GODERA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to set up plants for drugs, chemicals and fertilizers in the public sector in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, when and where; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c). A joint sector formulation unit in Rajasthan is being set up by Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and Rajasthan Industrial and Mineral Development Corporation. The unit is being set up in Vishwakarma Industrial Area near Jaipur.

A Working Group on Fertilizers set up by the Planning Commission to formulate a Programme for development of additional fertilizer capacity during the Sixth Five Year Plan, has recommended consideration of the setting up of a phosphatic fertilizer project at a suitable location in Rajasthan based on the rock Phosphate available in Jhamarkotra. The exact location of the Project can be firm'd up only after a feasibility report for the Project has been prepared and various relevant techno-economic aspects have been studied.

There is no proposal to set up chemical plants in the public sector in the State of Rajasthan.

Shifting of Headquarters of Mining and Manufacturing Company from Calcutta and Bombay

10722. SHRI JANARDHANAPO-OJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has been urged that the head offices of Mining and

Manufacturing Co. having operations should be shifted from Calcutta and Bombay to State itself; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Orissa have urged the Central Government for shifting the head offices of companies engaged in mining of minerals from the metropolitan cities to their respective States. But, for the following reasons, it has not been possible to accept this suggestion:—

(i) Under section 17 of the Indian Companies Act, it is the legal right of the shareholders of the Company to decide the location of the Registered Office, or any subsequent change thereto;

(ii) Any amendment to the Companies Act, providing for regulation of the location of registered offices of Companies, cannot be reasonably related to "regulation or development of minerals". Therefore, it would not be justified to amend the Companies Act for the purpose suggested by the State Government;

(iii) Several Companies are carrying out mining operations for a variety of minerals in several States. In such circumstances, there would be practical problems of adopting a uniform principle for locating the registered offices; and

(iv) It is not likely that any significant benefit will accrue to any State by the shifting of the registered offices, as there is a well settled procedure for sharing between States the revenue collected from income tax.

Production of Alcohol

10723. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,