

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) how the bulk drug needs are proposed to be met by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b). While the output of formulations during 1979-80 on the whole has increased as compared to the previous year, the production of some formulations manufactured by some companies has fallen due to various reasons such as labour unrest, power cuts, scarcity of raw materials in the international market, escalation in the cost of inputs, scarcity of packaging materials (like Aluminium Foils), etc. There are, however, no general shortages of formulations as a result of such curtailment of production. There are periodical regional shortages of some brands and equivalents are generally available in these cases.

(c) The requirements of bulk drugs are met from indigenous production and through imports.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: What is the total installed capacity of indigenous production of bulk formulations and what is the actual production in 1979-80? What is the total import of bulk formulations in 1979-80?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: I would require a separate notice for that.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Is it a fact that because of the insistence of Government on foreign drug companies to dilute their capital, they are producing less?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: So far as overall production of formulations is

concerned, the production has not gone down. On the other hand, it has increased by 12.5 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is not over, but questions are over. I will go over the list again, so that if any of the absent Members are now present, they may put their questions. I find no such Member is present. We will take up the next item.

SHRI HARUKESH BAHADUR: Sir, yesterday I had given a notice regarding increase in postage rates partially.

MR. SPEAKER: We have seen the notice.

Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Regularisation of Services of Artists in A.I.R. and Doordarshan

*124. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are casual Artists working in All India Radio and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) whether it is a fact that the services of some casual Artists were regularised recently;

(d) if so, their number;

(e) whether they were regularised on the basis of any policy decision;

(f) if so, the details of the policy; and

(g) when the remaining casual artists are also likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Akashvani and Doordarshan have been en-

gaging casual Artists on short contracts for work connected with their programmes when there are vacancies in the posts of Staff Artists and regular appointments are likely to take time, or when a Staff Artist proceeds on leave etc. For the purpose, Akashvani Stations and Doordarshan Kendras maintain panels of persons suitable for different types of work to whom casual engagements are given as and when required. The total number of such casual artists is likely to be over 1200.

(c) and (d). The number of casual artists whose services have so far been regularised in Akashvani and Doordarshan is 223.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. In 1978 Government decided that those long-term casual artists who had either put in (i) 365 days during either block of three financial years 1974-77 or 1975-78, or (ii) 240 days in any one financial year during the years 1974-78 may be considered for regularisation against vacant posts of staff artists subject to their being educationally and other wise qualified for the post.

(g) The remaining eligible casual artists have been kept on active panels upto 31st December, 1980 and they would be considered for regularisation against vacancies which may become available during this period.

Production of Cooking Gas from Bombay High

*126. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for production of cooking gas from Bombay High off shore resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ONGC is setting up a gas fractionation plant at Uran near

Bombay for extraction of LPG from Bombay High gas. The plant is based on the cryogenic process, with a design to fractionate a 50:50 mixture of association and non-associated gas the extent of 4 million cubic metres per day. The production of LPG is expected to commence in early 1981.

Relay Stations for T.V. based on Microwave Links

*127. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to establish a series of relay stations throughout the country for television transmission based on microwave links in collaboration with the Posts and Telegraphs Department; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). A plan to expand TV services in the country by putting up relay stations at suitable locations on the routes of the P & T microwave links is under formulation. The implementation of this scheme will, however, depend on the availability of funds and relative priorities accorded to various schemes.

दिल्ली में खाना पकाने की गैस के बनेबशन

*129. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : क्या पेट्रोलियम तथा रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ वर्ष पहले दिल्ली के निवासियों का राशन कार्डों के आधार पर खाना पकाने की गैस के बनेबशनों के लिए पंजीकरण किया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने व्यक्तियों का पंजीकरण किया गया ; और

(ग) उन्हें खाना पकाने की गैस के बनेबशन कब तक मिल जाने की आशा है ?