

**SHRI SUNIL MAITRA :** Sir, my original question was in two parts. One is that so far is the tonic, vitamins etc. are concerned, the multi national drug companies are producing them more because they fetch profit in astronomical figures. The second part of my question was that because these life-saving drugs do not attract much of the profit, the multi-national drug companies are deliberately producing them in less quantity. In view of this statement, I would like to know whether th Hon. Minister will inform the House what has been the actual quantum of production of the life-saving drugs by the Multinationals operating in India during 1979-80 and 1981-82 ?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Sir, actually there is no definition, even internationally of what the Hon. Member is calling as 'life-saving drugs'.

**SHRI SUNIL MAITRA :** All right you please give me the figures about the production of Streptomycin by these companies.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Sir, I have no ready figures for every drug which the Hon. Member might have in mind I am willing to supply to him the information He may give the names of the drugs which he considers as essential drugs and I will collect the figures and give them to him.

**DR. A. KALANIDHI :** Sir, I would like to know whether there is any proposal to reduce the price of Streptomycin, which is an essential drug in the 1st line of management of tuberculosis and also the price of other drugs which are considered essential drugs in the treatment of tuberculosis? Sir, we have accepted the slogan, Health for all by 2000 A.D. Therefore, I would like to know in my second question whether the Hon. Minister will put a restriction that only after producing a particular quantity of Eltroxin, Daprone etc, licence will be given for the manufacture of other drugs to the multi-nationals? This is necessary because Eltroxin, Phenobarbitone and Daprone are going out of the market. The reason is that they are to be sold very cheap and the profit they get is.

So, the multi-nationals are hesitating to produce them in enough quantity according to the requirement. So, my question is whether there is any proposal in the Ministry to restrict such a tendency and to reduce the price of Streptomycin, which is a very essential drug?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Sir, I had already given a reply in regard to all the anti-TB drugs, in reply to Question No 347 of 22nd March But I may inform the House that price of certain anti-TB and anti-Leprosy drugs like Rifampicin have been reduced. The price of the bulk of Rifampicin has been reduced by 25 to 30 percent and this is also reflected in the formulation. Then, Ethambutol, again an anti-TB drug, price of the bulk has been brought down from Rs. 837 to Rs. 804 Then Sir, the price of Sulphamethoxazole and Trimethoforim has been brought down by 55%.

**SHRI SUNIL MAITRA :** This is besides the fact that they are producing it less.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Actually there is no fall in production in spite of bringing down their prices. If any production takes places lower than the sanctioned level, we will encourage others to produce the same. In this connetion, I would say that we do not depend upon the multi-nationals.

### औषध निर्माता कंपनियों द्वारा कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि राशि का जमा किया जाना

\*752 श्री भीम सिंह :

श्री सत्येन्द्र नारायण सिंह :

क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अनेक औषध निर्माता कंपनियों कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि में अपना अंश नियमित रूप से जमा नहीं करती हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका पूर्ण विवरण क्या है तथा सरकार द्वारा ऐसी कंपनियों के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ; और

(ग) इस दिश में की गई कार्यवाही के क्या परिणाम निकले ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABI-  
LITATION (SHRI DHARAMVIR) :

(a) According to available information, there are cases of individual establishments which have defaulted in payment of provident fund dues.

(b) and (c) A statement showing the names of defaulting establishments, the amount due and the action taken or proposed to be taken for recovery of the outstanding amount is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

Name of the Region	Name of the defaulting establishment	Period of default	Amount in arrears, (Rs.)	Action taken
1	2	3	4	5
1. Delhi	1. M/s Gurco Pharma.	8/70 to 5/72	36,426.74	1. The firm is under liquidation. 2. Claim has been filed with the official liquidator.
	2. M/s Delhi Municipal Corporation	10/80 to date	Dues not assessed	Action under section 7A of the EFF & MP Act, 1952 is under process to determine the dues.
2. Karnataka	3. M/s Bahola Pharmaceutics.	4/79 to date		Action under section 7A of the Act has been initiated. After determination of the dues necessary legal and penal action will be taken.
	4. M/s Nail Ayurvedashram.			The establishment has filed a writ petition in the Court contesting the applicability of the Act and the same is

1	2	3	4	5
				pending. Action will be taken after the disposal of the writ petition.
	5. M/s Rampen (P) Ltd.	4/80 to 11/82	34,696.50	1. Revenue Recovery Certificates have been issued under section 8 of the EPF & MP Act, 1952. 2. Action under section 14 of the Act is under process.
	6. M/s Surgical & Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., Davanere	11/75 to 8/76		1. Company was wound up during 9/76. 2. A claim is being preferred before the official liquidator.
3. Madhya Pradesh	7. M/s Suneeta Laboratories, Indore.	3/82 to 6/82	49,255 65	Action under section 8 of the Act has been initiated.
	8. M/s Sasmi Organic (P) Ltd., Ratlam	11/82 to 12/82	Dues not assessed	Action under section 7A of the Act has been initiated, to determine the dues. After issue of proceedings under section 7A necessary legal and penal action will be taken.
	9. M/s Olpherts Pvt. Ltd. Jabalpur.	8/82 to 11/82	—do—	
4. Maharashtra	10. M/s medichem Lab. (P) Ltd, Bombay.	1/73 to 10/75	52,751.75	1. The estt. is closed. 2. Claim has been filed with official liquidator. 3. Actions under sections 8 and 14 of the Act have been taken.

1	2	3	4	5
	11. Becon Pharmaceuticals, Bombay	5/80 to 5/82	1,17,342.00	Actions under sections 8 and 14 of the Act have been Initiated.
	12. National Pharmaceuticals, Bombay.	3/79 to 6/82	81,692.00	—do—
	13. Bombay Pharmaceuticals, Bombay	7/80 to 5/81	16,471.45	—do—
5. Punjab.	14. M/s. Jayson's Pharmaceuticals Mohali (Ropar) of M/s. Sudha Pharmaceuticals (P) Ltd. Mohali	4/80 to 10/80 4/81 to 10/81	4,443.25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The establishment was closed down in 5/81.</li> <li>A new lessee has taken over the establishment from 6. 10. 82.</li> <li>For the defaults from 4/81 to 10/81 revenue recovery action under section 8 of the Act has been initiated.</li> <li>Action under Section 7A of the Act is under process for the remaining period.</li> </ol>
	15. Pharma Chemico Laboratories, Solan (H.P.)	3/80 to 4/82 5/82 to 12/82	7,070.45 Dues not assessed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action under section 8 of the Act has been initiated.</li> <li>Action under section 7A of the Act, is under process for the remaining period.</li> </ol>
	16. Govt. Central Pharmacy & Stores Patiala (Exempted Estt.)	5/76 to 11/81 EPF & only EDLI dues 12/81 to date	41,895.95 Dues not assessed	Action under section 7A of the Act is under process. Further action will follow after issue proceedings under section 7A.

1	2	3	4	5
6. Rajasthan	18. M/s AdamsPharmaceuticals, Jaipur	12/78 to 11/82	1,09,434.05	1. Revenue Recovery certificates under section 8 of the Act has been initiated. 2. Prosecution under Section 14 of the Act has been sanctioned.
7. Tamil Nadu	19. M/s Saline India Pharmaceutical, Madras.	9/82 to 12/82	914.00	Action under section 7A of the Act is under progress; follow up action will be taken on completion of the proceedings under section 7A.
	20. M/s Thio Calcin Co., Madras.	11/71 to 12/72 10/73 to 3/74 7/74 to 12/75	13,299.55	Company is under liquidation and the matter is pending in the court.
	21. M/s Solar Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	11/81 to 7/82	12,759.00	Action under section B and 14 of the Act has been initiated.
	22. M/s Warm Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Ranipet, N.A.Dt.	2/79 to 12/82	Dues not assessed.	The establishment had filed a writ petition in the court contesting the applicability of the Act. The case is pending in the Court.
	23. M/s Associate Pharmaceuticals Industries (P) Ltd.- Madras-17	7/80 to 1/83 (except 10/80 to 12/80)	10,507.00	1 Action under section 8 & 14 of the Act has been initiated up to 3/82. 2. Enquiry under section 7A is in progress for 4/82 onwards.

1	2	3	4	5
8. Uttar Pradesh	24. M/s Abgel Pharma, Kanpur.	10/81 to 11/82	40.7580	Action under section 7A & 14 has been taken.
	25. M/s Kanwar Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Kanpur.	3/81 to 7/82	1590.35	—do—
	26. M/s. Kanwar Ayurvedic Pharmacy (P) Ltd., Kanpur	4/81 to 7/82	6672.60	Enquiry under section 7A of the Act is in progress, further action will be taken on completion of the proceedings under section 7A.
	27. M/s. Irug Corpn. Kalyanpuri, Kanpur.	Dues not assessed		Action is under process to assess the dues.
	28. M/s. Agency Shubla Pharmacy Ayriya, Etawah.	Dues not assessed.		—do—
	29. M/s. Allodiol Chemicals Mfg. Co. (P) Ltd., Meerut.	12/81 to 5/82	10,149.70	—do—
	30. M/s. Drums Pharmaceuticals (P) Ltd., Varanasi.	11/80 to 2/82	57,115.35	Action under section 8 & 14 of the Act has been initiated.
	31. M/s United Pulverisers, Agra.	11/78 to 3/80	6,974.10	Action under section 7A of the Act has been initiated to assess the due in the first instance.
	32. M/s Pee Medic, Agra.	11/82 to 12/82	2,988.40	—do—
	33. M/s Bhagwan Finance Corporation, Berailly.	8/76,9/77 and 10/77.	748.33	—do—
9. West Bengal	34. M/s Brahmachari Research Inst. (P) Ltd., Calcutta	3/68 to 4/73	Rs. 3.60 lakhs	The establishment has gone into liquidation. Claim filed with the Official Liquidator.

1	2	3	4	5
	35. M/s Bharati Chemicals, Calcutta.	6/70 to 5/78	Rs. 2.48 lakhs	Establishment Closed. Certificate cases filed upto 3/75 .
10. Bihar	36. M/s Ashok Chemical Laboratories.	10/77 onwards	on-	Action under section 7A and under Section 8 are under process.
	37. M/s D. B. T, Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd., Muzaffarpur.	10/80 onwards	on-	
	38. National Chemical Corp., Gaya.	5/77 onwards	on-	This establishment has filed a writ petition in the High Court of Patna against the action taken by the Regional Commissioner, Under Section-8.

*Note :* Information in respect of defaulting establishments in North Eastern region is not readily available.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : The Statement that has been laid on the Table of the House shows that a number of establishments have made defaults, and the arrears of provident fund have been allowed to go up in some cases to Rs. 3 lakhs, Rs. 2 Lakhs and Rs. 1 Lakh. May I know why Government did not initiate action at the earliest when they defaulted in making payments, under Section 7A and Section 14?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : As I have stated in the statement, the arrears from different drug manufacturers, I think, are not a very big sum. Some are defaulting a few thousands, and some are defaulting a few lakhs ; but according to the Provident Fund Act, a certain procedure has to be completed, before recovering the arrears. So the first procedure is to initiate action under Section 7A after detecting the arrears. So, Section 7A is a judicial procedure. So the parties can appear before the Regional Provident

Fund Commissioner either personally or through their lawyers. Sometimes, when they appear, they seek adjournments. It takes a long time. Once their dues are assessed, the demand notes are sent according to the procedure, and within a particular time limit of the demand notice if the amount is not deposited, then recovery certificates are issued to the Revenue Officers ; and again, it is the State Government and the Revenue Officers in the State Government who have to recover the arrears. That is why, so far as these arrears are concerned the Provident Fund organisation is very prompt in taking action. They have been initiating action under Section 7A, and they have been assessing the dues, they have been issuing recovery certificates, they have been prosecuting, and in certain cases, they have been taking action under IPC also. All the necessary steps are being taken, in order to recover the arrears I may tell for the information of the House that so far as arrears are concerned, they are not even 1% of the total contribution received from provident fund. So, the arrears are

not too many ; they have not assumed serious proportions.

**SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :** I am not satisfied with the reply given by the Hon. Minister, that the Department has acted with promptness. For instance may I refer him to two cases, viz. Ashok Chemical Laboratories at item 36 and the other company at item 37 where these establishments have been defaulting from October 1977 and October 1980 respectively? still, the process has not been completed.

Then, with regard to items 34 and 35, the hon. Minister will see that the arrears have gone up to Rs. 3.60 lakhs and Rs. 2.48 Lakhs respectively. If it had been prompt enough, it would have settled them much earlier ; and you cannot say that the amount is not big enough to assume alarming proportions.

Then he said that under Section 7A, the process has to be completed before action under Section 14 can be taken up. May I refer the Minister to region No.8 viz. Uttar Pradesh-items 24 and 25? Here again, under Section 7A and Section 14 action has been taken simultaneously. May I know, therefore, why should not action have been taken earlier, so as to avoid the mounting of arrears?

**SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL :** As I have already explained, a certain procedure has to be completed Before initiating action under Section 7A, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner has to collect information. He has to collect information from the employer. Sometimes, the employers do not furnish the information in time. I also take the House into confidence and say that so far as enquiry under Section 7A is concerned, it is the statutory responsibility of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner now because he is more overburdened with the work because, there are so many enquiries which are pending under Section 7A; and one officer cannot cope up with this. Therefore, government is seriously

thinking of amending the 'Act' and also government is thinking of giving these powers by re-designating the Deputy Regional Provident Fund Commissioner and also the Assistant Regional provident Fund Commissioner. But as, I have already mentioned and said that the amount that is in arrears compared to the amount that is realised every year is not even one per cent. Provident Fund Organisation is a very big organisation collecting thousands of crores of rupees every year. Out of thousands of crores of rupees, a few lakhs of rupees are not big arrears. That is why I made it clear that arrears are not even one per cent of the total amount received...

[Interruptions]

**MR. SPEAKER :** The Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि

\* 749. श्री विजय कुमार यादव : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बीड़ी कर्मकार कल्याण उपकर (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1981 के अंतर्गत 1982-83 के दौरान उत्पाद-शुल्क के रूप में कुल कितना राजस्व अर्जित किया गया ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि बहुतबड़ी संख्या में बीड़ी श्रमिकों तथा उनकी शैक्षणीय वित्तीय स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुए उत्पाद-शुल्क से प्राप्त राशि बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि के उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति करने के लिए अपर्याप्त हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इस कल्याण निधि में पर्याप्त धन-राशियां उपलब्ध होने की दृष्टि से सरकार का विचार उत्पाद-शुल्क की दर बढ़ाने तथा उत्पाद-शुल्क से अर्जित राजस्व में वृद्धि के अनुपात में उत्पाद-शुल्क से उक्त निधि अंशदान करने का है?