

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Percentage progress of the electrification work on the section is 30%.

(b) Programmed for completion in 1977-78.

(c) Rs. 10.8 crores approximately upto 31-3-1975.

Reaction of Pharmaceutical Organisations on Abolition of Brand Names of Drugs

*645. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether three organisations controlling the powerful sector of the pharmaceutical industry have expressed their resentment against the abolition of brand names of 13 drugs as recommended by Hathi Committee; and

(b) if so, what are their arguments and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The Report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry "on Measures for providing essential drugs and common household remedies to the general public, especially in rural areas" which also covers the aspect of substitution of brand names of drugs by generic names was laid on the Table of the House on the 4th March 1975.

In arriving at their conclusions, the Committee had taken into consideration the views expressed by all concerned, including those by Associations viz Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, All India Manufacturers Organisation etc. regarding substitution of brand names by generic names. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government. To examine the question of abolition of brand names, the Hathi Committee had set up a panel of eminent doctors and the Committee has broadly accepted the views of that panel. A number

of conventions have also been held recently in the country which were attended by eminent doctors and public workers where also phased abolition of brand names was supported.

अनुपस्थित होने पर भी इंटक यूनिवर्सल के पदाधिकारियों को इम्यूटी पर उपस्थित माना जाना

*646. श्री माधवराव सिन्धिया :
श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान बम्बई के समाचारपत्रों में प्रकाशित उस रेलवे परिपत्र की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें माटूंगा रेलवे वर्कशाप के परसोनेल आफिसर ने कहा है कि उन रेल कर्मचारियों को जो इंटक यूनिवर्सल के पदाधिकारी हैं उस दिन भी इम्यूटी पर माना जाये जिस दिन वे अनुपस्थित थे ; और

(ख) तत्संबंधी सम्पूर्ण तथ्य क्या है और इस संबंध में भेदभावपूर्ण नीति के लिये दोषी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री बृट्टा सिंह) : (क) और (ख) नहीं; 1974 की हड़ताल के दौरान माटूंगा कारखाने के तत्कालीन उपमुख्य यांत्रिक इंजीनियर द्वारा चार कर्मचारी, जिनमें से दो शाप अधीनस्थ थे और दो अन्य अधीनस्थ कर्मचारी थे, विशेष इम्यूटी पर रखे गये थे। इनकी इम्यूटी यह थी कि कर्मचारियों से सम्पर्क स्थापित करें तथा डराने-धमकाने के कारण कर्मचारियों में फैले डर को दूर करें। अतः प्रशासन ने जिस अवधि में उनकी सेवाओं का उपयोग किया था, उसे एक विशेष मामले के तौर पर, इम्यूटी की अवधि मानना पड़ा। विशेष है वे कर्मचारी इंटक से संबंध थे परन्तु यह भी कहना पड़ेगा

कि उक्त समय अल्पतः तनावपूर्ण स्थिति के बावजूद ये लोग इस कार्य के लिए जाग जावेंगे।

Loss Due to Incidents of Crime in Railway Yards

*647. SHRI K. CHIKKALINGAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the amount of loss incurred by Government due to incidents of crime, including thefts in Railway yards during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): The amount of loss to the Railways during the years 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74 was in the order of Rs. 9.54, 9.13 and 9.84 crores respectively due to incidents of crime including thefts in yards.

Deputation of Chief Ministers for Railway Development in N.E. Region

*6078. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deputation comprising of the Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories of North Eastern region headed by the then Governor of North Eastern States Shri B. K. Nehra, met the Prime Minister sometime in 1973 and submitted a memorandum;

(b) whether the Prime Minister had assured the delegation that Government would take all necessary steps for the development of Railways in N. E. Region and an overall survey of the rail and other communication needs of the region would be prepared and cost of projects would be estimated and funds would be made available; and

(c) if so, whether any survey has been made so far and what are the projects taken by Government and the amount sanctioned for those projects in 1975-76 budget?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) In pursuance to the decision arrived at the meeting of the Chief Ministers with the Prime Minister held on 13th September, 1973 in New Delhi, the Railways have taken up the surveys for the following projects at the cost of North Eastern Council. The surveys are yet to be completed.

1. Pancharatnaghat-Dudhnai-Darangir
2. Gauhati-Burnihat
3. Lalaghat-Sairang
4. Rangapara-Balipara-Bhalukpong
5. Tipling-Itangnagar
6. Murkongselek-Fasighat
7. Gauhati-Dudhnai.

The proposals will be considered further after the survey reports are received and examined.

Proposal to Reduce Prices of Raw Materials of Drugs

6079. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government want to reduce the prices of some of the raw materials of drugs which are either canalised or sold by IDIL at pool prices, if so, the names of products, their present prices and the proposed reduction/increase in price and the reasons for doing so;

(b) whether the S. T. C. has flouted and misrepresented to his Ministry about the prices of imported materials if so, the facts about it; and

(c) whether Government propose to lift the price control for the Indian sector as it is done in the case of cars, vegetable oils and other products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K.R. GANESH): (a) There is, at present, no such proposal under consideration of Government.

(b) The prices of bulk drugs/drug intermediates imported and distributed by the S.T.C. are fixed in accordance with a formula laid down by the CCI & E and the quotations obtained by S. T. C.