

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

अशोधित तेल तथा गैस के आयात के लिए अल्जीरिया के साथ समझौता

22. श्री हरी सिंह :

श्री सी० के० चन्द्रपन्न :

क्या पेट्रोलियम मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने अल्जीरिया के साथ अशोधित तेल तथा तरल गैस का आयात करने के बारे में हाल ही में कोई समझौता किया है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो अशोधित तेल किन शर्तों पर आयात किया जाएगा ?

पेट्रोलियम मंत्री (श्री के० डी० मालवीय) . (क) और (ख) भारत और अल्जीरिया के बीच 10-2-76 को हुए व्यापारिक समझौते के अन्तर्गत कच्चे तेल और पेट्रोलियम उत्पाद ही ऐसे दो पदार्थ हैं जिनका भारत द्वारा आयात करना उपयुक्त समझा गया ।

Hill Stations for Railway Concession

*23. SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria fixed for identifying a hill station for issuing railway concession tickets;

(b) whether the pilgrim centres in the hills have been included in the list of such hill stations; and

(c) whether the proposal for including Haridwar, Rishikesh and Kotdwar in the said list has been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: (a) The

following criteria has so far been adopted for identifying a particular station as a hill station for the purpose of issuing railway concession tickets:—

(i) that the station is of sufficient tourist importance and has been identified as such by the concerned State Government.

(ii) that the Station is such that the non-tourist traffic is not large and concessional return tickets would be commercially viable for the Railways.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The question of extending the hill station concession to Haridwar, Rishikesh and Kotdwar is under consideration and a decision will be taken in the light of the criteria laid down for the purpose.

Sale of Drugs Imported by S.T.C.

*24 SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the policy for the allocation and supply of Methyl Dopa to private sector companies through State Trading Corporation during 1975;

(b) whether Methyl Dopa specifically imported by State Trading Corporation was not being offered to the parties at the existing prices fixed under the Drugs Price Control Order; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to avoid preferential procurement prices of various drugs and pharmaceutical items imported by State Trading Corporation vis-a-vis when they are imported by the parties themselves?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND
FERTILIZERS (SHRI C P. MAJHI):**

(a) DGTD units are released all canalised items including Methyl Dopa to the extent of the consumption during any of the last two years of the quantity recommended by the State Drug Controller whichever is less. Depending upon the licensed capacity, higher releases are recommended in merits of each case.

During the year 1975-76, following units including small scale units were recommended release of Methyl Dopa:

	Tonnes
1 M/s. IDPL	5
2 M/s. Merck Sharp & Dohme	2
3 Dey's Medical Stores	2
4 Theras	2
5 Suneeta Labs	2
6 Gujarat Pharmaceuticals	200 kg.
7 M/s. Jagsonpal & Co.	200 kg
8 M/s. Unique Chemicals	200 kg
9 M/s. Cilia Labs	200 kg

M/s. Suneeta, however, intimated that they are surveying the market and will intimate whether they are interested in the release of Methyl Dopa or not in due course.

(b) Allocation orders have been issued for release of Methyl Dopa at the approved price of Rs. 975 per kg ex-

godown as under:

Name of the Party	Allocation order date	Quantity
1 M/s IDPL New Delhi	21-2-76	1000 Kg
2 M/s. Theras Chemicals, Vapi, Gujarat	"	2000
3 M/s. Dey's Medical Stores, Calcutta	"	1000
4 M/s. Gujarat Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad	"	200
5 M/s. Jagsonpal & Co., Parulabad	"	200
6 M/s. Unique Chemicals, Bombay	"	200
7 M/s. Cilia Laboratories Pvt Ltd Ahmedabad	"	200
TOTAL		4800
The following quantities have been released earlier		
1 M/s. Merck Sharp & Dohme, Bombay	May 1975	2000 Kg.
2 M/s. IDPL, New Delhi	Various all cities Orders	4500
		11,300

(c) STC floats tenders to cover their purchase programme in accordance with the Import Plan fixed for the year. The decision to buy from a particular source/sources is taken by the management of the STC based on their commercial judgement. The canalised drugs are sold by the STC/IDPL at

prices fixed by the Government under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970.

Introduction of Direct Train between Jammu-Kashmir and Kerala

*26. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce a direct train connecting Jammu-Kashmir and Kerala; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss incurred by Plants of Fertilizer Corporation of India

*27. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL:

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the six plants of the Fertilizer Corporation of India are expected to incur an overall loss of Rs. 2 crores during 1975-76 as against some profits last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken to check such reverses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) to (c). Despite an improvement in the production, the overall loss of the Corporation during 1975-76 is estimate at Rs. 20.97 crores. Of the six operating units of the Corporation, five will

be incurring loss. The main reasons for the losses are increase in the cost of inputs like naphtha, fuel oil, coal, sulphur, electricity etc. and increase in the fixed cost like salaries and wages and repairs and maintenance. Reduction in the price of methanol and in NPK fertilizer also contributed to the loss. Government have set up a Committee to study the present basis for pricing of fertilizers and recommend a pricing policy that would ensure a fair return on investment on a sustained basis.

Equitable Distribution of New Wagon Orders

*28. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to distribute equitably the new wagon orders; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Offers for placement of additional orders for 15,555 wagons (in terms of four wheelers) have been made to the 10 active units in the wagon building industry, in an equitable manner so that backlog plus additional orders will give a uniform load for about three years to all units based on their anticipated production.

Construction of Sakri-Hasanpur New Railway Line

*35. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 5 crores had been included or sanctioned in the budget for 1975-76 for the construction of Sakri-Hasanpur new railway line;