

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;