

plan also makes provision for expansion of the role of the Public Sector.

Government have appointed a Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry under the Chairmanship of Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi and the terms of reference of this Committee *inter alia* include:—

“To recommend measures necessary for ensuring that the Public Sector attains a leadership role in the manufacture of basic drugs and formulations, and in research and development”.

“To make recommendations for promoting the rapid growth of the drugs industry and particularly of the Indian and small scale industries sector. In making its recommendation the committee will keep in view the need for a balanced regional dispersal of the industry”

The Committee is expected to submit its report by April, 1975. It has furnished to Government a list of essential drugs and common household medicines which will be required to be manufactured in large quantities. The details are being worked out for ensuring adequate production. Discussions have been held with the representatives of Indian Medical Association and the Indian Drug Manufacturers Association regarding the role which the indigenous sector of the drug industry should play in making available drugs in adequate quantities to meet the requirements of the Country. The Indian Sector has agreed to submit a blue print shortly. This sector has also been asked to prepare a scheme for production of mass consumption drugs at cheap prices and to identify such drugs out of the list of the Hathi Committee. Further consultation with them will follow to draw up time bound programme of production/expansion of such drugs.

Survey for Petroleum in Arabian Sea touching Karnataka State

*115. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to see whether petroleum is available in the portion of Arabian sea touching the State of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Complaints about the functioning of Election Commission

*116. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received about the functioning of Election Commission;

(b) if so, the nature of complaints received; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No complaints have been received.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Second Sagar Samrat

*117. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has been approached for second Sagar Samrat recently; and