

dealing with other matters such as advertisements, etc. However, I understand that government policy is to help small newspapers through advertisements and other means.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Separate High Courts for Punjab and
Haryana

*301. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move for having separate High Courts for Punjab and Haryana States; and

(b) if so, the time by which a separate High Court for Haryana State is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Crude from Saudi Arabia

*302. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India would import crude from Saudi Arabia in 1976;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) what will be the price of this crude to be paid by India?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) to (c). A contract has been signed between Indian Oil Corporation and the PETROMIN of Saudi Arabia for the supply of 1.1 million tonnes of crude oil during 1976. There is an accepted convention not to disclose the com-

mercial terms on which Indian Oil Corporation makes its purchases from foreign countries.

Maintenance of Steam Engines

*303. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steam engines in service at present and the number out of them which are considered to be over-aged;

(b) what special steps are being taken about securing parts of these engines; and

(c) how many such over-aged steam engines were involved in accidents or failures during the last year?

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

(a) Out of 5096 Broad Gauge and 3015 Metre Gauge Steam Locomotives in service, 606 Broad Gauge and 293 Metre Gauge are overaged.

(b) Certain vital spares for which adequate manufacturing capacity is not available with the Railway Repair Work shops, are being supplemented by manufacturing them at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan.

(c) Only one Broad Gauge and one Metre Gauge locomotives were involved in accidents on the Southern and Northeast-Frontier Railways respectively. 54 Broad Gauge and 28 Metre Gauge overaged locomotives failed during the last year.

Concessional Rates for Export Items
of Industrial Raw Materials

*305. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have been carrying industrial raw materials and

Items meant for export at concessional rates;

(b) whether this concessional rate is below the cost of inputs; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

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

(a) to (c). Freight concessions in respect of all traffic meant for exports have been withdrawn with effect from 1st April, 1975.

Normally, freight rates for industrial raw materials are fixed with a view to cover the costs. In cases where costs are not covered, action is taken to suitably alter the rates from time to time.

Prices of Streptomycine

***308. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Streptomycine prices have been raised again and if so, why; and

(b) what is the production of streptomycine in public and private sectors?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The price of Streptomycine was fixed at Rs. 295 per kg. effective from 30th April, 1970 as recommended by the Tariff Commission. The price was raised to Rs. 343 per kg. w.e.f. 8th August, 1974 by granting an interim relief of Rs. 48 per kg. by neutralising the incidence of increase in prices of inputs. On the basis of full cost-cum-technical examination, the BICP submitted their report on fair selling price of this drug in October, 1975. On the basis of this Report, Government have notified the dual price, namely, (a) Rs. 415.71 per kg. for Synbiotics and (b) Rs. 498 per kg. for other produ-

cers. This revision in price was allowed on the basis of the full cost-cum-technical examination and projections made for the three-year period by adopting the consumption norms and the capacities as assessed in the technical examination taking into account the increase in cost of inputs and other relevant factors.

(b) The production of Streptomycine Sulphate in the public sector and the private sector during the year 1975 was 107.28 tonnes and 84.81 tonnes respectively.

Commissioning of New Fertilisers Plants

***309. SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new fertilisers plants will be commissioned during 1976; and

(b) how far will this increase the output of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

Statement

(a) New plants/Expansion Projects to be commissioned during 1976-77

	'N'	'P205'
(i) Namrup Expansion	152	..
(ii) Barruri . . .	152	..
(iii) Cochin II . . .	40	114
(iv) Madras Expansion	12	27
(v) Vizag Expansion . . .	3	31
(vi) Tuticorin	51
(vii) Sindri rationalisation	..	156
(viii) Khetri	90

The Mangalore fertilizer plant with a capacity for the manufacture of.