

(b) if so, the facts thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA) (a) and (b) In his lecture Dr Nitya Nand has stated that the Pharmaceutical Industry as compared to most of the other consumer industries has two very special features viz (i) that it is very highly technology based and (ii) that it has strong social relevance being intimately connected with the health of the people. He has also made some observations on the challenges facing the drug industry like maximising indigenous production of essential bulk drugs and formulations bringing down the drug prices to the lowest possible level, abolishing the use of brand names, making arrangements to ensure that household and common remedies are made available in rural areas particularly in relatively inaccessible regions evolving a clear cut policy in regard to import of technology and restricting the import of bulk drugs. Most of the observations and suggestions made by him have been dealt with by the Hathi Committee also in their report on the Drugs and Pharmaceutical industry. The report of the Hathi Committee is under consideration and an early decision is expected to be taken.

**Extra trains operating between Ahmedabad and Bombay**

\*229 PROF P G MAVALANKAR  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS please to state

(a) the number of extra trains operated between Ahmedabad and Bombay during the months of April, May and June, 1977 to clear the summer vacation and holiday rush of travellers,

(b) whether the said trains had been running completely packed;

(c) the average number of passengers travelling by the said trains daily,

(d) whether there is any proposal under examination for a regular additional fast train from Ahmedabad to Bombay and vice versa for the overnight journey, and

(e) if so broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE) (a) A total of 36 pairs of special trains were running between Bombay (entire Ahmedabad during April to June, 1977

(b) These trains have been fairly well occupied

(c) The average accommodation provided and the average originating occupation were 86 and 36 in first and 706 and 498 in second class respectively

(d) No, Sir

(e) Does not arise

**Judicial Reforms**

\*230 SHRI P K KODIYAN Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to bring some judicial reforms, and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) (a) and (b) With a view to reducing arrears and give speedier justice the following steps are being taken by Government —

(i) the existing vacancies in High Courts are proposed to be filled up expeditiously

(ii) wherever necessary, the Judge strength of the High Courts will be increased

It has stated in the President's address that a comprehensive measure is to be brought before Parliament to amend the Constitution. This will take into account aspects of judicial administration contained in the 42nd Amendment. Policies regarding judicial reforms will be worked out in the light of that comprehensive measure.

### Electrical Reforms

\*231 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have any proposal for introducing electoral reforms, and

(b) if so the salient features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) (a) and (b) The matter is being examined

### Restructuring of Indian oil Companies

\*232 SHRI K LAKKAPPA Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether his Ministry is taking any steps for restructuring of the eight Indian companies in the field of refining and distribution of petroleum products and

(b) if so the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) For the present a three company set up has been proposed with the three major oil companies as follows

- 1 Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 2 Bharat Refineries Limited

3 Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

The recently acquired Calcutta Oil Refining (India) Limited is proposed to be merged with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, and the Assam Oil Company Limited after its takeover, is proposed to be merged with Bharat Refineries Limited. The Madras Refineries Limited and the Cochin Refineries Limited would continue as separate refining companies and the marketing of their products through the Indian Oil Corporation will continue as at present. The marketing of petroleum products through the Indo Burma Petroleum Company Limited would also continue for the present.

News regarding Million Dollar Pay-offs for Cochin Refinery

\*233 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the press reports to the 'Indian Express' dated the 10th May, 1977 wherein it has been stated: 'Revelations before a grand jury in the United States last September and earlier disclosures pressed for by the US Securities Exchange Commission have brought to the light the possibilities of million dollar pay-offs to Indian nationals in connection with the negotiation and construction of the Cochin Refinery in the Sixties.'

(b) whether this matter has also been criticised by the Estimates Committee of Lok Sabha sometime earlier in its report, and

(c) whether Government have since inquired into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) (a) to (c). Yes Sir 'The Federal Grand Jury' in