

Export of Furnace Oil and Diesel Oil

*238. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:
Shri K. N. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation propose to export 100,000 tons of furnace oil and the same quantity of high speed diesel oil to an American firm in Thailand; and

(b) if so, the foreign exchange to be earned?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) Yes, Sir. The quantity of High Speed Diesel Oil proposed to be exported is, however, 1,70,000 tonnes.

(b) About Rs. 2.88 crores.

Scarcity of Streptomycin

*238. Dr. M. Santosham: Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a total scarcity of Streptomycin in the market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. S. Chandrasekhar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers

*239. Shri K. N. Pandey:
Shri Baburao Patel:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government have recently asked for the withdrawal of American Peace-Corps Volunteers; and

(b) if so, which State, the reasons therefor and the action taken there on?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). The Government of Kerala has recently requested the Government of India to arrange for the withdrawal of some of the American Peace Corps volunteers working in that State viz. 26 volunteers working in the field of poultry development. It has been ascertained that the State Government considers the services of these volunteers are not very useful. The matter is under consideration.

Prices of New Drugs

*240. Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. O. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of determining the prices of new drugs has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). Under the provisions of the Drugs Prices (Display and Control) Order 1966, no manufacturer, importer or distributor of drugs can introduce for sale or include in his price list any new drug not included in the price list published by him valid on the 30th June, 1966 unless the price of such drug is approved by the Central Government.

Approval of prices of new drugs are granted on application from manufacturers, etc., after taking into account the prices of comparable products, cost structure, etc.

Measures to expedite approval of prices of new drugs is under consideration.