

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU; Sir, this is a matter of one thousand crores. We are facing financial crunch and one thousand crores of Govts' good money is lying with the pharmaceutical companies!

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): These are individual cases and I will look into them, Sir. If there is anything that needs to be done urgently, that will be done.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Ministry has appointed a committee to review the working of the DPCO of 1979 and because the committee has not finalised the report this confusion of collection has arisen and the industries are taking shelter under the review. I would also like to know as to how long this committee will take to give its final report and how long the Government will take to evolve a clear policy in regard to the recovery from these companies.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, we will come with a proposal. We will take it up.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Sir, want to know from the hon'ble Minister whether there is any proposal before the Government to scrap the DPCO as we have been reading in the newspapers. Is there a proposal for total decontrol of drug?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: There is no such proposal.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Satya Bahin.
(Interruptions)

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : समापति सहोदय, मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि मल्टी नेशनल कंपनियों पर जो ड्यूज बकाया थे उन पर जयसुख लाल हाथी कमेटी की सिफारिश के अनुसार एक कमेटी बनायी गयी थी। उसमें कुछ कमियां पायी गयी थीं। माननीय सदस्यों की शिकायत के आधार पर एक दूसरी

कमेटी गठित की गयी थी। तो दोनों कमेटियों को कौन से दस्तावेज दिये गये थे जिससे भारी डिफरेंस आया गया धनराशि वसूल करने के संबंध में यह मैं जानना चाहती हूँ। उन दस्तावेजों को देने के आधार पर क्या कोई जांच की गयी है और उस जांच में किन व्यक्तियों को दोषी पाया गया तथा जो दोषी पाये गये क्या उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN; Sir, as per 1979 DPCO there are some companies, multinational companies and Indian companies, which are supposed to pay. This is not the Correct calculation. They are supposed to pay my record about Rs. 226 crores and we are taking strict action, if necessary. We will try to collect the money.

*268. [The questioner (Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar) was absent. For answer, vide col. 36 infra]

Petrochemical complex at Visakhapatnam

*269. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a scheme for setting up a petrochemical complex at Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, whether it has been examined and placed before the Planning Commission for its approval under the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Andhra Pradesh State Industrial Corporation had Submitted an application in 1986 for a Petrochemical Complex at Visakhapatnam. Applications from other parties were also received. In 1989, the applications were examined by the Government and finally a Letter of Intent was issued on 31-10-1989

infavour of M/s. UB Petrochemicals Ltd. for setting up a 300,000 TPA capacity Nephtha Cracker at Visakhapatnam, after techno economic evaluation.

The allocation of the downstream units at Visakhapatnam is under the active consideration of Government and a decision will be taken soon.

SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: I would like to know from the hon-
table Minister what the progress of Visakhapatnam Chemical project is and whether the Planning Commission has cleared, it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over,

WRITTEN ANSWERS To QUESTIONS

A policy on food processing industry

*261. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to review the existing policy on food processing industry to make it export oriented;

(b) if so, whether the views of the State Governments would be considered before changing the existing policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of food processing units likely to be set up during the next five years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO):
(a) to (c) The Policy will be in harmony with the new Industrial Policy. The Government of India already have a policy of assisting State Government Undertakings in establishing food processing industries either by themselves or in the joint/assisted sector.

(d) Since the Government of India does not set up food processing units, it is not possible to attempt any estimate. 289 RS.-2

Muddle on the vegetable oil front

263. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news reports which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 6th July, 1991 regarding muddle on the vegetable oil front;

(b) whether Government are aware that this situation arose after market intervention operations (MIO) were initiated; and

(c) what have been the total losses incurred from MIO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Market Intervention Operations (MIO) by NDDB has been in operation since April, 1989. MIO has nothing to do with present difficult edible oil situation.

(c) There have been no losses under MIO so far for NDDB.

Primary A.I.R. Channel at Kanpur

*264. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question 1092 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether there is any primary channel of AIR at Kanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to strengthen and upgrade AIR stations in Uttar Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.