

closure of loss incurring public sector undertakings which are a burden on the public exchequer;

(b) if so, what are the details of the public sector undertakings which are likely to be closed; and

(c) if not, how does Government propose to make these units viable?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have not adopted any general policy on the closure of public sector undertakings incurring losses. Such a course of action is taken by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department on a case to case basis.

(c) Various measures are taken to improve profitability like change in product-mix-technology upgradation, improved maintenance management practices, energy conservation, modernisation and rehabilitation, organisational restructuring etc.

Agitation by medical representatives of IDPL

809. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical representatives working in I.D.P.L. have been agitating against the alleged corruption and inefficiency existing at the higher and middle management levels in the company and;

(b) if so, what are the specific allegations and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) and (b) Some medical representatives of IDPL have made certain allegations against the management of the company.

The allegations include corruption in the matter of transactions with Karnataka ESIC, use of agents by the Company for its institutional business, illegal manufacture of 'IDISULES' and getting drug formulations made by some other company.

The allegation regarding corruption in the matter of purchase of drugs by Karnataka ESIC is under investigation by the C. B. I. According to IDPL, the company has been having agents for over a decade for its institutional sales, which is also the practice in the industry as well as the other public sector companies.

Improvement of Airport Infrastructure

810. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite according of priority to airline fleet upgradation, growth in airport and air route infrastructural facilities, there is still a wide gap in these areas due to the increase in air traffic and transport;

(b) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps to keep pace with the increasing requirements to improve the airport infrastructure; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Modernisation of equipment and upgradation of facilities at airports either by replacement of old technology equipment or by provision of new facilities is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner, depending upon

the requirements projected by the regulatory authorities, operators (Airlines), availability of resources, land etc.

Steps to combat drug abuse

811. **SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research and All India Radio have jointly agreed to broadcast a new programme to tackle the growing menace of drugs abuse, alcoholism and tobacco consumption in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of such programme;

(c) whether ICMR have contemplated any further steps to combat this growing menace of drug abuse; and

(d) if so, what are the details the need?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTHAY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Medical Research have initiated a project entitled 'Radio DATE', in collaboration with All India Radio. The acronyms DATE stand for Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education. The overall objective of the project is to assess the effect of Radio as an instrument of social change in regard to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco consumption in the community. The project would be in the form of 28 weekly episodes to be broadcast from 8th April, 1990 by all the 104 stations of All India Radio, in 17 languages. A brief summary of the project is given in Statement I.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council of Medical Research have also undertaken a Project to assess the efficacy of an anti-tobacco community education programme, by involving the

health infrastructure. The project is being undertaken at Bangalore, Goa and Agra and Trivandrum. Goa Centre is also studying the role of school children and teachers in anti-tobacco community education. The Council is also undertaking a project at 3 centres viz. Delhi, Lucknow and Jodhpur to monitor the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, conduct a community survey to assess the magnitude of the problem, and to assess the efficacy of different therapeutic regimes. The list of ongoing intervention projects of ICMR on drugs, alcohol and tobacco usage is at Statement II.

Statement-I

Summary of the project

Radio DATE-Joint Project of All India Radio and ICMR on integrated broadcasting

OBJECTIVES

Overall objective

To assess the effect of Radio as an instrument of social change in regard to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco consumption in the community;

Specific Objectives

1. To design and develop a series of radio programmes aimed at generating awareness in the community on the holistic approach to health hazards of drugs, alcohol and tobacco and their management.

2. To inform and educate the community in promoting healthy life styles, that are impaired with the consumption of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

3. To assess the immediate effect of such radio programmes in a defined group of radio listeners.