

Price of alcohol

853. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS:
SHRIMATI USHA MOLHOTRA:

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

(a) what are the factors which are taken into consideration for fixing the price of alcohol under the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order; and

(b) when the existing price was fixed?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) The price of alcohol is reviewed from time to time on the basis of cost studies done by the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices. This takes into account factors, like cost of raw material, inputs, such as molasses, cost of utilities, such as steam and other relevant factors, including reasonable costs of conversion.

(b) The existing price of Ethyl Alcohol was notified on 25th August, 1980.

Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur pipeline project

854. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tender bids floated by the Government of India for H.B.J. pipeline project have again not been finalised;

(b) what is the fresh date of revalidation which Government have sought from the tenderers;

(c) what was the originally estimated completion date of the project; and

(d) what is the likely completion date now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Offers received in response to the tenders issued by Oil and Natural Gas Commission for the HBJ pipeline project are in process.

(b) Bidders were requested by Gas Authority of India Limited to extend validity of their offers till 15 April, 1985.

(c) and (d) The project is expected to be completed by July 1989, as originally estimated.

Out-of-Court settlement for gas victims by Union Carbide

855. SHRI JASWANT SINGH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

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

(a) whether there has been any offer from the Union Carbide for an out-of-court, lump sum settlement for the victims of gas accident in Bhopal;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have considered the particular aspect of the rehabilitation of the victims?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) No definite proposal for Government's consideration has been received so far. The Company has, however, indicated that they propose to submit a concrete proposal soon.

(c) All possible steps are being taken by State Government to provide for immediate requirements for rehabilitation of the victims.

Fertilizer production during Seventh Five Year Plan

856. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the fertilizer production target in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) what is the contribution expected out of this target after the completion of Hazira-Bija-pur-Jagdishpur pipeline and the resultant fertilizer plants?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Targets of fertilizer production for the Seventh Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of sub-standard medicines

857. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARDWAJ:

SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press report captioned 'Sarkari Karkhane Se Ghatiya Dava Ki Supply' (Supply of sub-standard medicines from Government Factory) which was published in the 'Navbharat Times' dated the 10th March, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has so far been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hindustan Antibiotics Limited purchased 8 batches of imported Tetracycline bulk drugs from Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited in May, 1977 and took delivery even before testing because of immediate requirement. The material was tested by Hindustan Antibiotics Limited in its Quality Control Laboratory and found satisfactory. Based on this, a part of the bulk drug was taken up for processing and capsules prepared were supplied to the Army. These were returned by the Army as they developed colour. In the meantime, the test report of the Drug Controller was received by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited which indicated that four batches were of sub-standard. Part of the material was returned to Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and replacement received subsequently. The other part was reprocessed to Indian Pharmacopies (IP) specification and used for making human and veterinary formulations. The capsules returned by the Army were also reprocessed to IP specification and disposed of. No complaints were received in this regard. During reprocessing of the sub-standard bulk drug and the capsules there were certain material losses.

Supply of kerosene to Kerala

858. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the supply position of Kerosene Oil to Kerala per month for the last three months;

(b) whether it is a fact that the supply of kerosene oil to Kerala is inadequate as compared to its demand;

(c) if so, whether Government have received any request for increasing the quota of Kerosene Oil from the State Government of Kerala; and