

fund accounts of establishments employing 500 or more persons is before the Government.

(b) The proposal is based on the recommendation of the Employees Provident Fund Review Committee (Ramanujam Committee), 1981.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee, including the recommendation for decentralisation were considered by the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees' Provident Fund, which is a tripartite body.

156. [Transferred to the 4th August, 1983].

Rehabilitation of Victims in Assam

157. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of rehabilitation of victims affected by the Assam violence in various camps in the North-eastern region has been completed;

(b) what is the number of families resettled and what further steps have been taken by Government in this regard;

(c) what is the total valuation of the transferred evacuee property and the amount therefrom utilised for resettlement; and

(d) what efforts are being made to finally complete the backlog of evacuee property settlement?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) The peak population in the relief camps in Assam was 3,10,732 on 8th March, 1983. Out of this, only 890 remain in camps on 20th July, 1983.

The peak population in relief camps in West Bengal was 28,460. Out of this, 26,217 remain in the camps on 20th July, 1983.

(b) Out of estimated 50,845 affected families, 45,384 families have been given approved scale of rehabilitation assistance. The grant of assistance to the others is at various stages.

(c) Properties of the affected persons have not been declared as evacuee and as such there is no question of their valuation or utilising of the amount therefrom for resettlement. The Government of India is providing funds to the Government of Assam for relief and resettlement of the affected persons.

(d) Does not arise.

Public Sector Drug Units

158. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up more public sector drug units to achieve self-reliance;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to set up these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R.C. RATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Public Sector Drug Units

159. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to increase the production of the public sector drug units;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R.C. RATH): (a) to (c) The production performance of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry is regularly being monitored and reviewed by the Government. The Public Sector Undertakings are making efforts to increase their capacity utilisation.

Drug Policy

160. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of drug policy of Government to achieve self-reliance; and

(b) the steps taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R. C. RATH): (a) and (b) One of the major objectives of the 1978 Drug Policy is the development of self-reliance in drug technology. With a view to achieving this objective it has been provided as follows:

(i) the foreign companies whose turnover in drug is in excess of Rs. 5 crores per annum shall be obliged to have research and development facilities within the country on which capital investment should be at least 20 per cent of their sales turnover as recurring expenditure on research and development facilities;

(ii) Foreign companies shall also be encouraged to offer quality control facilities to the small scale sector on a no-profit no-loss basis.

(iii) The import of technology for new bulk drugs by foreign companies will have to be on such parameters as may be determined by Government.

(iv) Foreign drug companies shall be required to undertake transfer of technology laterally to public sector units where national interests justify the setting up of additional capacity.

In the absence of adequate power under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act 1951 it has not been possible to implement the provisions at (i) and (ii) above. However, the provisions at (iii) are being implemented. There are about 70 R&D Centres recognised by Science & Technology Department for the Drug Industry.

Production of Life Saving Drugs

161. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of drugs has registered a significant increase in the recent past;

(b) if so, what is the corresponding reduction in the prices of the life saving drugs; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure quality and purity of the drugs produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R. C. RATH): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been overall increase in the production of drugs.

(b) Prices of number of bulk drugs and formulations have also been recently reduced by the Government. The major areas where prices have been reduced include reduction in prices of anti-TB formulations based on Rifampicin, formulations for the treatment of peptic ulcer based on Cimetidine and formulations based on Trimethoprim and Sulphamethoxazole.

(c) Quality control on the drugs is exercised under the Drugs and Cosmetics