

21 bulk drugs out of 32 licensed to them during the past five years;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to revoke the industrial licences covering these 21 bulk drugs; and

(c) what steps are being taken to keep afloat pending proposals of M/s. Glaxo Limited in abeyance until they regularise their bulk drug manufacture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes

k Sir.

(b) A show-cause notice for revoking three licences covering 10 bulk drugs has already been issued. A final decision would be taken on receipt of the reply from the company. A condition is being stipulated in the approval for expansion of Betamethasone that four other Corticosteroids in that licence will be deleted from the licence. The remaining bulk drugs are covered by Industrial Licences which have been partially implemented.

(c) Applications for the manufacture of items received from companies are considered on merits. Action with reference to unimplemented Industrial Licence of the party, if any, are taken separately.

**Import of Triene for Betamethasone
by M/s. Glaxo**

783. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo Ltd. have reported, belatedly, the import of the intermediates triene during the past three years for the manufacture of betamethasone/derivatives;

(b) if so, when was this matter reported and whether this fact was disclosed to the BICP and in the compulsory cost audit of the company;

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to stop this irregular practice; and

(d) whether Government propose to send a notice to M/s. Glaxo under the Drug Prices Equalisation Account for the quantity of betamethasone/derivatives produced by them from triene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The imports of intermediates by M/s. Glaxo Laboratories (India) Limited for the production of Betamethasone during the last three years have already been furnished in reply to Raja Sabha Starred Question No. 203 answered on 7th December, 1981.

(b) M/s. Glaxo Laboratories (I) Limited vide their letter dated 15th January, 1979 intimated that they have been encountering a serious problem at the micro-biological fermentation stage in 23 stage process of manufacture of Betamethasone as also some problems at two of the prior stages. This according to M/s. Glaxo resulted in their production coming down by approximately 33 per cent of the average output during the period October to December 1978 and also in substantial drop of yields. They indicated that they have taken steps to import Triene, the post fermentation stage drug intermediate for achieving normal production. The intimation of the above facts was given to my Ministry, DGTD and the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices. The fact concerning import of Triene by this company has been deindicated upon in the cost audit report of the year ending 30th June, 1979, 30th June, 1980 and 30th June, 1981. The practice of making available the cost Audit Reports to this Ministry has started from the current year.

(c) The Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is already considering suitable changes in the Policy concerning import of inter-

mediates for Betamethasone like Triene.

(d) The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices have already been requested to collect full details concerning import of Triene and other intermediates by M/s. Glaxo Laboratories (I) Limited for the production of Betamethasone and send their recommendation concerning price of Betamethasone. The question of recovery, if any, into the Drugs Price's Equalisation Account would arise only after the recommendations of the BICP are received.

Fixation of price of Vitamin 'A'

784. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the retention price fixed for Vitamin A and its salts of various manufacturers, with names of manufacturers, stage of manufacture along with their retention price and the pooled price, the date and whether the same has been implemented or not, if not, what are the reasons for delay;

(b) whether it is a fact that these companies have imported/procured huge quantities of Vitamin A and its salts from merchant exporters, export houses, locally and at high sea, if so, the quantity imported/procured with full details, names of the parties, price and quantity by each manufacturer during the last three years; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices taken by these manufacturers in formulations are much higher than the price of procurement/purchase and imports, if so, what steps have been taken to get the difference of amount in equalisation account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Vitamin 'A' Acetate Dry Powder (0.5 miu/gm) is produced in the country only by M/s. Roche Products Limited. A maximum price of Rs. 730/000 MIU was fixed for this drug on 28th January, 1981. There is no separate pooled price, common sale price or retention price, for this drug

In respect of Vitamin 'A' Oily Forms a retention prices of Rs. 555/000 MIU and Rs. 795/000 MIU have been fixed for Roche Products Ltd., and Glaxo Laboratories (India) Limited respectively along with a common sale price of Rs. 716/000 MIU. These prices also came into effect from 28th January, 1981. No separate pooled price for Vitamin 'A' Oily Forms or any other form of Vitamin 'A' have been fixed as common sale price has been fixed. These prices are fixed for indigenous production from Lemnegrass Oil.

(b) The following details regarding to import and procurement of Vitamin A have been reported by Glaxo Laboratories (India) Limited: —

Form of Vit. 'A'	Year	Qty.	GIF price Rs. Kg.	Source
<i>Imports</i>				
1. Vitamin A Acetate Dry Powder (0.5 miu/gm)	1978-79	Nil	Nil	Nil
2. Vitamin A Acetate Dry Powder (0.5 miu/gm)	1979-80	5307	240.08	Denmark
		4000	200.64	France
		493	193.66	West Germany
	1980-81	Nil	Nil	Nil