

**Expansion capacity for production of  
Betamethasone**

1320. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA  
HEPTULLA.  
DR. JOSEPH LEON  
D'SOUZA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2647 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st December, 1981 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo Limited do not have the facilities to expand their capacity for the production of Betamethasone from 300 kgs. to 425 kgs. from basic stages;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to revoke the letter of intent granted to M/s. Glaxo for expansion in capacity of Betamethasone particularly when it has been established that they have in the past restored to large scale import of intermediates required for the production of Betamethasone; and

(c) whether it is a fact that number of approvals have already been issued by his Ministry for Betamethasone production and as these units are also in the process of establishing production for Betamethasone the letter of intent granted to M/s. Glaxo needs to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Industrial Licences are granted taking into account the estimated future demand and the progress of implementation of capacities for that item as per existing approvals. As such no review of the Letter of Intent granted to Glaxo for expansion in the capacity for Betamethasone appears to be called for.

**Assessment of production capacity of  
M/s. Glaxo Limited**

1321. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating inspection by technical experts to assess the production of M/s. Glaxo Ltd. and to collect information of their unauthorised production;

(b) if so, by when this study is likely to be completed and what is the action contemplated; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to check irregular installation of equipment and machinery by M/s. Glaxo Ltd. thereby increasing their installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The applications of M/s. Glaxo Laboratories for recognition of installed capacities of bulk drugs and drug formulations have been scrutinised and certain additional information has been called for from the company, the receipt of which is still awaited. The question of an inspection by technical experts of the plant and machinery of this company does not arise at this stage.

(c) The question of taking any steps would arise only if irregular installation of machinery is established.

**Charging of high price for Oxzepam  
by M/s. Wyeth Laboratories**

1322. SHRI JAGDISH JANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Wyeth Laboratories Limited are charging very high price of Oxzepam;