

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the inordinate delay in this regard and by when the posts are proposed to be filled up?

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

(b) The interviews of candidates for Medical Representative (Trainee) have been completed. No appointment has been made as yet.

(c) The delay has been due to the time taken in scrutiny of applications and in holding preliminary interviews at regional level. Final interviews were held in November/December, 1981, when the interviews for experienced Junior Medical Representatives were also conducted. The offers of appointment for Junior Medical Representatives (Experienced) have already been issued and the acceptances on offer are awaited. The induction of Medical Representatives (Trainee) will be taken up after the vacancy situation in various regions is analysed on receipt of joining reports of the experienced regular Junior Medical Representatives.

Diphenoxylate Bulk Drug

2269. SHRI K. V. R. S. BALA SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bulk drug Diphenoxylate was classified as involving high technology by the high level committee in their report of 1979; and

(b) if so, how this bulk drug was later classified as not involving high technology by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) the process of manufacture of Diphenoxylate

was not considered by the High Level Committee for assessment of the level of technology as no foreign company was manufacturing it, and there was no pending application for this drug from a foreign company at that time.

(b) Based on the information furnished by a foreign company in its application for an industrial licence submitted in 1980 and applying the criteria for High Technology laid down by the High Level Committee, it was classified as not involving high technology.

Marketing of Drugs by M/s. Pfizer Limited

2270. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIB-ULLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Pfizer are marketing their drugs and formulations without any price approval from his Ministry;

(b) if so, what are the names of the items being marketed by this company without price approval;

(c) whether it is a fact that M/s. Pfizer are overcharging from the consumers in respect of certain products; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) Instances of M/s. Pfizer to selling of twelve reformulated Schedule V multivitamin formulations at their own prices which have not so far been approved by the Government have come to the notice of the Government. The names of such formulations and the prices indicated in their Price list effective 10th February, 1982 are given in the attached statement.