

Violation of I (D & R) Act

1981. 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 M/s. Glaxo has committed a number of violations of I (D&R) Act, Import Trade Control Act, Price Control Order and Foreign Exchange Regulations Act;

(b) whether any instructions have been issued/proposed to be issued to the Reserve Bank of India/Ministry of Finance to stop remittances of dividends and other remittances by the company till their affairs are fully investigated; and

(c) if so, by when and what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The position with regard to production of formulations by M/S. Glaxo Labs. without valid industrial approvals has already been indicated in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 109 answered on 23rd November, 1981.

Certain instances of import of Vitamin A Acetate and intermediates for manufacture of Betamethasone by this company have also come to light and the matter is being looked into. As regards violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, no such instance has come to the notice of the Government. As regards price, Government have issued a notice to the Company dated 29th June, 1981 asking the company to pay the difference between the price of the bulk drug they enjoyed in the formulations based on Betamethasone Alcohol Betamethasone 17-Valerate and Betamethasone Di Sodium phosphate and the price as fixed by the Government with effect from 12th May, 1981, into the Drug Prices Equalisation Account. A separate notice has been issued to

them to pay the difference between Rs. 236.84 per gram being the price of the bulk drug, Betamethasone Di Sodium Phosphate enjoyed by them in formulations and a price of Rs. 220.00 per gram being the price declared by them with effect from 31st March, 1979, into the Drug Prices Equalisation Account. M/s. Glaxo have, however, challenged the reduction in the prices of Betamethasone Alcohol, Betamethasone 17-Valerate and Betamethasone Di Sodium Phosphate in the Delhi High Court and the Court has given a Stay on the implementation of the revised prices notified by the Government effective 12th May, 1981. Further action against the Company under DPCO 1979 would be dependent on the judgement of the Delhi High Court on their Writ Petition.

(b) and (c). No instructions have been issued or/are proposed to be issued to Reserve Bank of India/Ministry of Finance to stop remittances of dividends and other remittances by this Company at this stage.

Drilling Operation in Godavari Offshore Area

1982. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD:

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:

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

(a) whether ONGC has resumed drilling operations in the Godavari Offshore areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that a 10 year plan for intense oil exploration is being prepared; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A 10 year exploration and development plan for on shore area by a joint Indo-