

technology. The measures proposed to be taken by the Govt. in furtherance of these objectives have been set out in the Statement on New Drug Policy, laid on the Table of the Sabha on 29th March, 1978.

Supply of crude oil from the United Arab emirates

13. SHRI CHADALAVADA VENKATARAQ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requested the United Arab Emirates to supply more crude oil; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BHAUGUNA): (a) and

(b) Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers visited UAE in November, 1978. As a result of his visit, UAE agreed to increase the quantum of crude supplies from one million tonnes contracted for in each of the years 1975-78 to 1.5 million tonnes during 1979. At the request of the Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers, the UAE Oil Minister has also agreed to consider the possibility of further enhancing the level of crude supplies during next year.

Proposal for financing the elections in the country

14. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Election Commissioner has recently made a proposal to the effect that Government should make ar-

rangements for financing the elections in the country; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question whether the election expenses of candidates at elections to Parliament and State Legislatures should be borne by the Government, and, if so, to what extent is under active consideration of the Government, as part of the comprehensive proposals for electoral reform.

Monopoly hold on the production of consumer goods by multinationals

15. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that multinationals have monopoly hold on the production of many consumer goods in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b) There are three multinational corporations which have multinational hold in the production of certain