

ihat the total imports of crude oil and petroleum products during the financial year 1979-80 would be of the following order: —

Crude Oil . 17 million ton

Petroleum Products 5.5 million ton

(b) As against the original estimates of Rs. 3067.90 crores of foreign exchange involved, the revised requirements of foreign exchange are likely to be of the order of Rs. 3712.11 crores.

(c) Presently the Oil Industry is incurring an estimated loss of nearly Rs. 4.5 crores per day from 1.1.1980 and the increased burden is being made good by drawing loans from Commercial Banks with the sanction of Reserve Bank of India. The additional burden on the economy is very heavy.

#### **Scheme to reduce consumption of petrol**

100. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the uncertain availability of crude oil, Government have formulated any scheme to reduce the consumption of petrol by (i) Government offices, (ii) affluent people, and (iii) the general public;

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

(c) whether Government propose to increase production of petroleum and explore new sources of energy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) The attention of the Union Ministries/Departments and the State Governments /Union Territory Administration has been drawn to the steep increase in the consumption of petrol and they

have been requested to take necessary steps for achieving a saving of 15 per cent in the consumption of petrol during 1979-80 over that of 1978-79 in respect of the departments, public sector undertakings, etc., coming within their control. In the case of others, reduction in the consumption of motor spirit (petrol) is expected to be achieved mainly through price increases.

(c) All efforts are being made to maximise availability of indigenous crude oil. Besides, the question of blending alcohol with petrol is also being actively pursued. The Department of Science and Technology is implementing plans for exploring alternative sources of energy.

#### **Increase in the prices of petroleum products**

101. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to increase the prices of petrol and other petroleum products;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government also propose to curb the consumption of petroleum products for non-essential purposes and <sup>also</sup> propose to ration petrol; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Successive and steep increases in the prices of imported crude oil and petroleum products from the last quarter of 197\* has led to a phenomenal increase in the import bill. Increases in the domestic prices of petroleum products are not ruled out.

(b) It is not in the public interest to divulge any details at this stage.

(c) The attention of the Union Ministries/Departments and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations has been drawn to the steep increase in the consumption of petrol and they have been requested to take necessary steps for achieving a saving of 15 per cent in the consumption of petrol during 1979-80 over that of 1978-79 in respect of the departments, public sector undertakings, etc., coming within their control. In the case of others, reduction in the consumption of motor spirit (Petrol) is expected to be achieved mainly through price increases. There is no proposal at present to introduce any rationing of petrol.

**Sudden spurt in house building societies/colonisers in Delhi**

102. SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a sudden spurt in the house-building societies/colonisers in Delhi;

(b) whether the working of these societies is regulated by any law;

(c) whether it is a fact that before the construction of houses these colonisers are required to deposit security money with Government; and

(d) if not, what protection is given to people who invest their money in these societies against unscrupulous colonisers?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): So far as colonisers in Delhi are concerned, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

So far as building societies are concerned the reply is as under;

(a) The Registrar, Cooperative Societies has stated that the ban on registration of cooperative housing

societies was removed for one month from 22-7-79 to 21-8-79 when 628 applications were received and of these 393 group housing societies were registered.

(b) These cooperative group housing societies are governed by the provisions of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 and the Rules made thereunder.

(c) and (d) Land is allotted to them by the DDA according to the terms and conditions prescribed to it

**Sixth Five Year Plan target to achieve drugs**

103. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets envisaged in the Sixth Five Year Plan for (i) Rs. 475 crores of bulk drugs and (ii) Rs. 1,900 crores of formulations by 1982-83 are likely to be achieved;

(b) if not, what would be the short-fall, and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c) For achieving a production of Rs. 475 crores of bulk drugs and Rs. 1900 crores of formulations by 1982-83, the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission estimated that an investment in fixed assets of Rs. 250 crores was required so far as the relatively capital intensive bulk drug production was concerned. As regards formulations, the industry estimated that an investment of Rs. 50 crores might be adequate, having regard to the existing capacities. Industrial approvals granted for the manufacture of drugs during 1978-79 and 1979-80 (till January, 1980) envisage an investment of about Rs. 48 crores in the private sector. In addition to this, an investment of nearly Rs. 10 crores is envisaged by Indian companies under the scheme of exemption