

general public and the Export Houses in this Ministry's Press Notes of 1st August, 1977 and 7th December, 1977 prior approval of the Central Government is necessary before the bulk drugs imported by export houses are sold to the actual users.

Till these clarifications were issued, making Government's intention regarding prior fixation of prices clear, the prevailing position under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 was that the importers were merely required to declare the sale prices which, however, could not exceed the notified prices in respect of Essential Bulk Drugs and there was no obligation to seek price fixation prior to sale.

State Drug Controllers and the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports have been instructed to ensure that in future the Export Houses do not sell the bulk drugs imported by them without getting the prices fixed. If any violations of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 are noticed by Government, appropriate penal action would be taken.

A number of requests for fixation of prices of bulk drugs imported by Export Houses have since been received and are under consideration of Government.

Capital of Birla Group

1266. SHRI SUJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the capital investment in each of the Birla group of Companies as at the end of the year 1970; and

(b) what is the extent of increase in the capital investment in each company since then?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) and (b) Assuming registration under sec-

tion 26 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, as the basis for the grouping, as on 30th September, 1977, 69 undertakings appear to belong to Birla group. The details of their assets reflecting the capital investment in 1969 and in 1975 together with the increase or decrease recorded by each undertaking, are shown in the annexed statement. [See Appendix CIII, Annexure No. 70].

†विवाह की न्यूनतम आयु का बढ़ाया जाना

1267. श्री देवराव पाटिल :

श्री कृष्णराव नारायण धुलप :

श्री आर० डी० जगताप

आवरगांवकर :

क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने विवाह की न्यूनतम आयु बढ़ाने का निर्णय किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

†[Raising the minimum age of marriage]

1267. SHRI DEORAO PATIL:

SHRI K. N. DHULAP:

SHRI R. D. JAGTAP

AVERGOANKAR:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to raise the minimum age of marriage; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?]

†Previously Unstarred Question 1085 transferred from the 14th December, 1977.

‡[] English translation.

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री
(श्री शान्ति भूषण) : (क) जी, हाँ।

(ख) विवाह की न्यूनतम आयु पुरुषों के लिए अठारह वर्ष से बढ़ा कर इक्कीस वर्ष और स्त्रियों के लिए पन्द्रह वर्ष से बढ़ा कर सोलह वर्ष करने का प्रस्ताव है। इस प्रयोजन के लिए लोक सभा में एक विधेयक 15 दिसम्बर, 1977 को पुरःस्थापित किया गया है।

†[THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The minimum age of marriage is proposed to be raised from eighteen to twenty-one years for males and from fifteen to sixteen years for females. A Bill for the purpose has been introduced in Lok Sabha on December 15, 1977]

Raunak Group of Industries

1268. SHRI SUJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the capital investment in each of Raunak group of Companies as at the end of the year 1970; and

(b) what is the extent of increase in the capital investment in each company since then?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) and (b) Assuming registration under section 26 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, as the basis for the grouping, as on 30th September, 1977, 9 undertakings appear to belong to Raunak Singh group. The details of their assets reflecting the capital investment in 1969 and 1975 together with increase recorded by each undertaking are shown in the annexed statement.

Statement

Assets in 1969 and 1975 of the undertakings registered under section 26 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, read with section 20(a) thereof, from the Raunak Singh group and the extent of increase in assets

Sl. No.	Name of the undertaking	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		Value of Assets		
		1969	1975	Increase
1.	Apollo Tubes Ltd.	36.6†	107.3	70.7
2.	Bharat Gears Ltd.	5.3§	654.0	648.7
3.	Bharat Steel Tubes Ltd.	816.4	1899.3	1082.9
4.	Machine & Tubes	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
5.	Raunak & Co. Pvt. Ltd.	68.6	167.4	98.8
6.	Raunak & Agencies Pvt. Ltd.	0.1	1.1	1.0
7.	Raunak & Co. Industries Pvt. Ltd.	3.8	4.7	0.9
8.	Raunak International Pvt. Ltd.	13.1	94.2	81.1
9.	Universal Steel & Alloys Ltd.	Negl.	183.5	183.5

†[] English translation.

†As per first Balance-Sheet 1974.

§As per first Balance-Sheet 1972.

N.A.—Information not available, as the undertaking is a partnership firm.

Negl.—Negligible (P. 2,468 only).