

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : It is a fact that about 40 to 50 per cent of the drugs manufactured in this country are being manufactured by foreign firms. The growth of pharmaceutical industry has a historical background and its companies have grown over a period of time and it would be neither possible nor desirable to push out these foreign companies at this time. We are trying to encourage our Indian firms to come up and as and when they are in a position to replace these firms, their share would be increased, and we do hope that our indigenous firms would come up and have a high share.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Have you considered the larger equity share in these foreign companies? Why don't you take over these foreign companies?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : Every time these foreign companies come up for expansion, they are asked to reduce or when they come up for production of basic bulk drugs, one of the conditions usually stipulated is that 30—50 per cent of the bulk drugs would be given to non-associate formulators, that is, the drugs that they will produce, they will use some for their own purposes and the rest they will give to the development of Indian industry. The Government is taking every possible step to give encouragement to the Indian industry to come. But at the same time these foreign drug firms have their associates abroad. They are carrying out their intensive research and development programmes; new drugs and medicines are being manufactured everyday as a result of this intensive research and development, and we would not like to deprive our country of the benefit that we get from these firms. We are certainly trying to control remittances abroad. We are trying to control profits. All this is being done by the Government. We are giving every encouragement to the Indian industry to come up. At the same time until such time as the Indian industry is in a position to replace effectively these firms, it would be rather premature to think of taking over all these foreign drug firms. Whenever these foreign firms ask for expansion schemes for production of new

drugs, we stipulate also that so much percentage of it should be exported. And they are also earning foreign exchange for us. They are helping our small-scale units to come up. They are playing a useful role and we have no intention of taking over these firms.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Gujarat Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1974

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Gujarat Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1974, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd July, 1974.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now we go to the next item, Statement . . .

श्री सीताराम सिंह (बिहार) : श्रीमान्, मैं बिहार की घटनाओं की ओर इस सदन का ध्यान आकषिप्त करना चाहता हूँ . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Sitararam Singh, I have not permitted you to raise anything. Please sit down.

श्री सीताराम सिंह : बिहार में आज जो अराजकता फैली हुई है और वहाँ की जो परिस्थिति है उसको मैं . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If you persist in speaking, whatever you say will go off the record.

(Shri Sitararam Singh continued speaking)