

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Besides, a panel of screened/selected casual labour for absorption against regular vacancies is also being maintained.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.]

Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry

*148. SHRI J. S. ANAND :
SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hathi Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry has sought extension of time for submission of its final report;

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

(c) whether some interim reports have been submitted by this Committee and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations and what is Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) In view of the comprehensive nature of the enquiry being undertaken by the Committee under its terms of reference, the Members of the Committee felt that it would not be possible for the Committee to submit its report by the 7th February, 1975, and have, therefore, requested for extension of time by another two months.

(c) and (d) The Committee has submitted a report on one of its terms of reference, viz. "Quality Control and related matters". A copy of the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard was placed on the Table of the House in reply to a Starred Question No. 11 answered on the 22nd July, 1974.

The Committee has also submitted a list of essential drugs and house-hold remedies which would be required to be manufactured in large quantities.

These recommendations are under consideration.

†[] English Translation

Ticket Collector at Sahibabad Railway Station

330. SHRI S. A. HASHMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no ticket collector is posted at Sahibabad Railway Station on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) Being a small, wayside Station, no separate post of Ticket Collector has been provided. The work is being managed by the existing Station Staff.

Demand and Production of Cooking Gas

331. SHRI S. A. HASHMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the present quantum of annual demand and production of cooking gas in the country ;

(b) the names of the units producing cooking gas;

(c) the names of the new units which have been given licences for producing cooking gas, State-wise; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to meet the shortage of cooking gas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) The present demand for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (L. P. G.), used for cooking purposes is far in excess of the production and marketing facilities of the Oil Companies. During 1974-75, LPG sales are however estimated at approximately 300,000 tonnes.

(b) and (c) L. P. G. is at present produced only from refineries processing petroleum crude. A very small quantity of L. P. G. is also produced from two Petrochemical units in Bombay viz. NOCIL and UCIL. The following Refineries are at present producing L. P. G. :

1. Koyali Refinery, 2. Barauni Refinery, 3. Gauhati Refinery, 4. Haldia Refinery, 5. Madras Refinery Ltd.,

6. Cochin Refinery Ltd., 7. Hindustan Petroleum Refinery at Bombay, 8. Burmah-Shell Refinery at Bombay, 9. Caltex Refinery at Vizag.

Indian Oil Corporation have been issued a licence for a new Refinery at Mathura in Uttar Pradesh which will produce cooking gas also. A licence for expansion of Koyali Refinery in Gujarat has also been recently given to IOC. A proposal is also under consideration of the Government to produce LPG from the Natural gas obtained in Assam by OIL INDIA Ltd.

(d) Not only an increase in production but other market and specialised transport arrangements are also necessary to increase the supply of LPG, a detailed project report has been prepared by IOC for expansion of its LPG availability. The following steps have already been taken in pursuance of the above scheme :

1. For meeting the LPG cylinder requirements IOC has already imported 5000 tonnes of special quality steel and has also obtained a fresh import licence for 5000 metric tonnes of LPG steel to cover its cylinder requirements upto the end of 1975-76.

2. IOC has finalised arrangements for manufacture of 60 tank wagons on joint ownership basis in order to facilitate bulk LPG movement from Koyali Refinery to Shakurbasti.

3. Orders have also been placed for manufacture of 16 tank trucks for bulk movement of LPG. Orders for another 14 are being processed.

• 4. A new bottling plant has been planned at Kanpur and is likely to come into operation by mid-1975.

5. Work is also in progress to expand LPG bottling Plant facilities at Shakurbasti.

6. Additional loading and unloading facilities for tankwagons are being provided at Koyali and Shakurbasti.

Foreign Exchange Transactions by Foreign Drug Companies

332. SHRI T. N. SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of foreign drug companies operating in India having more than 26 per cent foreign equity; and

(b) the foreign exchange transactions of each of these companies yearwise during the last three years, ending March 1974 by way of (i) remittances abroad; (ii) foreign exchange earned by exports and (iii) savings in foreign exchange by import substitution of basic drugs and formulations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH):

(a) A list of drug manufacturing Companies operating in India with more than 26% foreign equity is given in the attached statement.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Name of the Firm

1. Abbott Laboratories
2. Alkali & Chemical Corporation of India Ltd.
3. Anglo French Drug Co.
4. Bayer India Ltd.
5. Bechem (India) Ltd.
6. Boehringer Knoll Ltd.
7. Boots Company (India) Ltd.
8. Burroughs Wellcome Ltd.
9. Ciba of India Ltd.
10. Cynamid Ltd.
11. E. Merck Ltd.
12. German Remedies Ltd.
13. Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.
14. Johnson & Johnson Ltd.
15. May & Baker Ltd.
16. Merck Sharp & Dhome Ltd.
17. Parke Davis Ltd.
18. Pfizer Ltd.
19. Reckitt & Colman Ltd.
20. Richardson Hindustan Ltd.
21. Roche Products Ltd.
22. Sandoz India Ltd.
23. Searle India Ltd.
24. Smith & Nephew Ltd.