

Regularisation of unauthorised capacity of Drug Industry

393. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to regularise all the unauthorised excess capacity in the drug industry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry headed by Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi is examining the various aspects of drug industry. The report of the Committee is expected by April, 1975 and decision on the question of excess production of drugs will be taken only thereafter.

Unauthorised Expansion of Drug Industry

394. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether Government have taken any step so far to prevent and penalise unauthorised expansion of drug industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry headed by Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi is examining the various aspects of drug industry. The report of the Committee is expected by April, 1975, and decision on the question of excess production of drugs will be taken only thereafter.

395. [Transferred to the 5th March, 1975]

Appointment of criminals at Dhanbad Railway Division

396. SHRI NIREN GHOSH :
SHRI SASANKASEKHAR
SANYAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in "The Coalfield

Gazette" an English Weekly published from Dhanbad, under the caption "Seven Notorious Criminals appointed in Dhanbad Railway Division"; and

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Though the publication in the "Coalfield Gazette" has not come to the Ministry's notice, it has come to light that a few persons obtained temporary appointments on the basis of letters which are suspected to be forged. The matter has been referred to the Police authorities at Dhanbad for investigation.

Study on profitability of Drug Industry

397. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared recently in the Economic Times under the caption 'Study on profitability of Drug Industry' and particularly the large profits earned by the foreign drug companies which are ultimately repatriated ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to weaken the hold of the foreign drug companies and bring them in the public sector ?

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

(b) Govt. have taken the following measures to regulate the expansion of foreign companies and encourage the growth of Indian Sector of the industry:

(i) The Indian sector of the industry is given preference in approval of manufacturing schemes;

(ii) Manufacture of increasing number of bulk drugs through public sector undertaking;

(iii) Industrial licences are usually not issued to foreign firms for producing formulations unless linked with the production of bulk drugs;