

†[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.,