

Setting up of drug unit in Kerala

491. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON:

DR. K. METHEW KURIAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the replies to Unstarred Questions No. 418 and 1105 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November and 10th December, 1973, respectively and stat*:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision on the question of setting up of new drug manufacturing units in the public sector under the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. during the Fifth Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) if so, whether one of them is proposed to be set up in the Kerala State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The matter is still under consideration.

Writ Petitions in Income Tax matters pending in Calcutta High Court

492. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1200 writ petitions in income-tax matters are pending in the Calcutta High Court; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken or have been taken by Government to expedite the disposal of these petitions?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only 326 writ petitions regarding income tax are reported to be pending in the Calcutta High Court. The High Court is taking all possible steps to expedite the disposal of the said petitions.

Construction of wall near Dhanushkodi

493. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to construct a wall near Dhanushkodi to arrest further sea erosion; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The State Government of Tamil Nadu have formulated a scheme which envisages the construction of a sea wall about 14.5 Km long for the protection of areas near Dhanushkodi against sea erosion, at an estimated cost of Rs. 351 lakhs. The scheme has been examined in the Central Water and Power Commission. The finalised scheme, taking into account the comments of the Central Water and Power Commission is yet to be received from the State Government.

Introduction of high speed train in Southern Railway

494. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a high speed train like Rajdhani Express in Southern Railways; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Collaboration in Offshore Oil Exploration

495. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately been negotiating with certain foreign firms for collaboration in offshore oil exploration projects;