

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration taking into account the essentiality of the drugs and the country's requirements of the same.

**Proposal for abolishing filing of election returns by candidates**

6. SHRI J. S. TILAK:

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH MUSA-FIR:

DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the proposal for abolishing the compulsory filing of the election returns by the candidates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Foreign drug companies**

7. SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF:

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM:

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some foreign drug manufacturing companies operating in India have indicated to Government their willingness to reduce their foreign capital; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, M/s. Alkali & Chemical Corporation of India Ltd., M/s Pfizer Ltd. and M/s. German Remedies Private Ltd. have agreed to reduce their foreign equity from 75.5 per cent to 60 per cent; from 75 per cent to 60 per cent; and from 64 per cent to 40 per cent respectively. Other foreign firms viz. M/s Abbott Laboratories India Ltd., M/s. May & Baker Ltd. and M/s. Searle India Ltd. have also shown a definite inclination to dilute their foreign equity.

**Arrears of Cases in High Courts**

8. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

SHRI KALYAN ROY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 30 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th November, 1971 and state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to enquire into the problem of arrears in the various High Courts has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its findings; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has made a number of recommendations aimed at—

(i) reducing delays which occur before a proceeding is ready for hearing;