

were fixed by this Department. Targets are fixed for the users of conventional contraceptives including Nirodh, diaphragms, jelly, cream and foam tablets. The yearly targets and achievements of conventional contraceptive users are given below :—

Year	Expectation (National)	Achievement	Percentage Achievement
1966-67	2308272	464605	20.1
1967-68	2057244	475236	23.1
1968-69	2108543	960896	45.6
1969-70	2431409	1515329	62.3
1970-71	4800000	2064789 (incomplete)	43.0

On an average, Nirodh users form 95% of the total conventional contraceptive users.

(b) As on 30th April, 1971, about 52 million pieces of Nirodh received as gift from the United States Agency for International Development and Swedish International Development Authority were available in stock at the Government Medical Store Depots. At the present rate of sale of over 5 million pieces Nirodh per month, it is expected that the quantity will be consumed by January, 1972.

(c) the actual production of the public sector undertaking at Trivandrum, i.e. Hindustan Latex Ltd., was 40.45 and 77.43 million pieces during 1969-70 and 1970-71 respectively. Against this, orders to the extent of 46.99 and 69.99 million pieces of Nirodh were placed during 1969-70 and 1970-71 respectively. Thus, it would be observed that orders for 116.98 million pieces were against the actual production of 117.88 million pieces.

REVISION OF REFINERY AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES

1091. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 87 given in the Rajya Sabha on 31st March, 1971 and state :

(a) whether discussions for the revision of the refinery agreements with foreign oil companies have since been completed ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SCARCITY OF SODA ASH

1092. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY :
SHRI SASANKASEKHAR
SANYAL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Small scale industries in India are facing a crisis owing to the scarcity of soda ash ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government will consider to take necessary steps to get sufficient soda ash for the small scale industries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Due to the shortage of soda ash that has recently developed in the country, the consumer industries including the small scale industries, are experiencing difficulty in procuring their requirements of this raw material.

(c) The following steps have been taken to meet the shortage :—

(i) Existing units have been asked to increase production to the extent possible ;

(ii) Imports of soda ash by the State Trading Corporation have been and are being arranged ;

(iii) Applications for the establishment of additional capacity in soda ash have been invited recently for ensuring more production.

SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER IN COAL FIELD AREAS IN RANIGANJ, WEST BENGAL

1093. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY :
SHRI NIKEN GHOSH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING/स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have agreed to