

(b) what action is being taken by Government to counteract such buildup by Pakistan ?]

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : (क) तथा (ख) भारत-पूर्वी पाकिस्तान सीमा के पार पाकिस्तानी सैनिकों की शक्ति या मोर्चाबन्दी में हाल में कोई विशेष परिवर्तन नहीं देखा गया। सीमा पार संबंधों के प्रति सतर्कता जारी है और अपने रक्षा प्रबंध करते समय उनका ध्यान रखा जाता है।

[THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM : (a) and (b) There has been no significant change recently in the strength or disposition of Pakistani troops across the India-East Pakistan border. The developments across the border continue to be watched and taken into account in making our defence arrangements.]

IMPORTED DRUGS FROM U.S.

745. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the "Times of India" dated the 30th November, 1970, regarding 'ineffective and hazardous drugs in U.S.A.';

(b) whether these drugs are imported to India;

(c) if so, the steps taken to seize them; and

(d) the extent of foreign exchange spent in importing these drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Food and Drug Administration of USA have banned a number of combinations of antibiotics and sulpha drugs and other such combinations. Normally such combinations are not imported into India.

(c) and (d) Do not arise. []

English translation.

EXPLORATION OF SEA BEDS IN INDIA

♦746. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state whether in view of the fact that the Sea bed is being explored and exploited in other parts of the world for sulphur, copper and nickel, Government are considering any plans for such exploration and exploitation in Indian Sea beds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI NITIRAI SINGH CHAUDHARY) : The Marine Geology Unit of Geological Survey of India, set up in 1965, is carrying out exploration work in off-shore areas in Indian ocean. For the time being they do the exploration by mounting their equipment on ships which are hired for this purpose. As a result of the work so far done, sixteen million tonnes of high grade calcareous sand have been proved in two lagoons in Laccadive Islands. The question of exploiting mineral deposits in sea-bed will be considered after the survey in the off-shore areas is completed.

A programme for geological survey and exploration of the entire continental margin of the country has been prepared and it is proposed to collect data and samples on cruise tracks totalling 26,000 km. and traversing the entire continental margin of the country. To expedite off-shore mineral exploration, the Geological Survey of India proposes to procure a ship especially designed for offshore mineral exploration from Indian shipyards during the 4th Plan.

RESEARCH WORK DONE BY ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

1538. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of research work done by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences during the years 1968-69 and 1969-70; and

(b) what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a)