

PRICE OF DRUGS

504. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :
SHRI K. DAMODARAN :
SHRI KALYAN ROY :

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

(a) what steps, if any have Government taken to control the prices of drugs and what is the effect of those steps on prices;

(b) whether Government propose to take any new steps to effectively bring down the prices of drugs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) The prices of drugs are regulated under the *Drugs Prices (Display and Control) Order 1966*. Under the provisions of this order, no manufacturer, importer or distributor of drugs can introduce a new drug or formulation or revise the prices of existing drugs without the prior approval of the Central Government. Drugs which are included in the notified pharmacopoeias and marketed under pharmacopoeial names are however exempted from the provisions relating to the approval or revision of prices by Government. The regulation of prices under this order has had a salutary effect and there has been no large scale increase in the prices of proprietary medicines which are subject to price control.

(b) and (c) The Tariff Commission's Report on the prices of 18 essential drugs is under consideration.

EXPANSION OF NATIONALISED BANKS

505. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up a scheme for the expansion of the fourteen nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the different categories of people which would be benefited by the expansion of these nationalised banks and the nature of the facilities which would be made available to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India had appointed a Committee of bankers to draw up a consolidated programme of branch expansion for the nationalised banks. The Report of the Committee has just been submitted and is under examination by the Reserve Bank. As regards expansion of their activities, the nationalised banks have been advised to formulate schemes to enlarge credit facilities to the weaker sections of society such as small traders, small artisans, small entrepreneurs, self-employed persons etc. Several of the nationalised banks have already come forward with schemes for providing credit facilities to these categories of persons. The Broad features of the schemes already drawn up are given in the enclosure.

STATEMENT

Financial Assistance Schemes of Nationalised Banks

Purpose	Extent of Advances
I. Agricultural Finance	
1. Short-term loan for—	
(i) Inputs	Upto Rs. 8,000.
(ii) Crop loan	
2. Medium-term loan for irrigation, land development and machinery, etc.	Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000.
3. Others—	
(i) Animal husbandry	Rs. 5,000 or upto 75% of the cost.
(ii) Poultry	75% of the expenditure

Purpose	Extent of Advances
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II. Small-Scale Industry

1. Working capital for inventory, etc. Upto Rs. 25,000 or actual need of the unit subject to a maximum of 75% of the cost.
2. Machinery and other fixed assets Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2 lakhs.

III. (a) Salaried employees

1. Consumer durable goods 75% to 90% of the cost Rs. 500
Rs. 15,000.

(b) Professionals, Artisans, Doctors, Architects etc.

1. Working Capital Rs. 100 to Rs. 10,000.
2. Durable consumer goods and equipment 60% - 90% of the cost.
Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1 lakh.
3. House building Upto Rs. 15,000.

IV. Small Traders

1. Working capital/Inventory A few hundred rupees to Rs. 5,000 50%
to 80% of the assessed requirement.
2. Furnitures, Fixture, repairs, renovation to the shop 75% of the cost subject to a maximum of
Rs. 25,000.

V. Road Transport Operators

1. Rickshaws The entire cost/Minimum Rs. 500 and
maximum Rs. 750 (Auto-rickshaw loan upto Rs. 5,000).
2. Taxis/trucks/buses Upto 70% to 75% of the value of the new
vehicle. Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000
(Rs. 60,000 including cost of body-building and other accessories.)

VI. Educational Loans

1. Books, fees, etc.—
Studies in India Upto Rs. 5,000.
Studies abroad Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 35,000.

506. [Transferred to the 4th December, 1969.]

SCHEME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES IN MADHYA PRADESH

507. SHRI SWAISINGH SISO-DIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for the development of facilities for public health in Madhya Pradesh has been submitted to the Union Government by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any Central assistance has been given for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND