

RANJIT AND LODHI HOTELS

*642. SHRI M. S. OBEROI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ranjit and Lodhi Hotels in New Delhi are running at a loss; and

(b) if so, the total accommodation in these hotels and the average daily occupancy of rooms during the last three months ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA) : (a) The Ranjit Hotel started functioning only from the 7th November, 1965 and the Lodhi Hotel from the 15th September, 1965. Since they have not yet completed the first year of their working, it is too early to assess their financial results.

(b) The effective accommodation available and average occupancy for the last three months in the hotels were :—

<i>Bed</i>	<i>capacity</i>		
Hotel Ranjit	102	
Lodhi Hotel	250	
<i>Average</i>	<i>occupancy</i>		
Hotel Ranjit	40	
Lodhi Hotel	80	

SALE OF HABIT-FORMING DRUGS

*643. SHRI RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee on Drug Control has suggested that the manufacture and sale of habit-forming drugs be restricted to a few manufacturers; and

(b) if so, whether the suggestion has been considered by Government and the decision taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the recommendations including the present one contained in the report are under examination by a Committee of 6 State Health Ministers appointed in pursuance of a resolution passed by the Central Council of Health.

tEcoNOMic POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

*478. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the categorical statement made in the *Washington Post* on October 11, 1965 to the effect that the United States of America was "using food to bargain about.... to change Indian priorities and Indian Economic Development Plans";

(b) whether in view of the statement referred to in part (a), his statement that no pressure was brought to bear upon the Government of India or upon individual Ministers to change our economic development policies is not correct; and

(c) whether our plans and policies have been altered as a result of the foreign pressure, if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

MEETING OF DRINKING WATER BOARD

761. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) when the last meeting of the Drinking Water Board was held and what subjects were discussed and the decisions arrived at that meeting; and

(b) the steps that are being taken for implementing those decisions?

tTransferred from the 17th August, 1966.