

prices who are/were following the Central Government DA pattern in respect of their executives, as per Annexure I [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1122/85]. 41 of these public enterprises also pay DA at the Central Government rates to their workmen and other junior employees (Annexure II) [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1122/85]. Interim relief was sanctioned by the Government to the Central Government employees pending receipt of the 4th Pay Commission Report. Government had advised these public enterprises not to pay similar interim relief to their employees because employees of these public enterprises are not under the purview of the 4th Pay Commission and the question of grant of interim relief to their employees merely on the basis of the orders issued for payment of interim relief to the Government servants does not arise. Moreover, the employees of these public enterprises receive some allowances like House Rent Allowance at higher rates. Government policy is that all public enterprises should switch over to the industrial DA pattern. The enterprises following the Central Government DA pattern are expected to submit their proposals for revision of scales of pay along with adoption of the industrial DA formula. Government is also prepared to consider fairly and objectively any proposal for interim relief payments pending revision of scales of pay for switching over to the industrial DA on a time bound basis on the merits of each case. Such interim payments have already been authorised by the Government in respect of the non-executives cadres of some of the public enterprises like Central Warehousing Corporation and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation. The executives in Hindustan Latex, Hindustan Prefab, Hindustan Paper Corporation and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Co. Limited have also agreed to switch over to the industrial DA pattern.

Although various Unions/Associations and Joint Action Committee of the Public Sector Enterprises have repre-

sented to the Government for payment of the interim relief to the employees of the public enterprises following the Central Government DA pattern, Government is of the view that it would not be possible to concede these benefits to the employees in view of what has been stated above.

Customs Duty on Import of Drugs and Drug Intermediates

6087. SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of drugs where the customs duty is lower than the customs duty imposed on its intermediates;

(b) the prevailing rates of customs duties that are applicable on import of drug and drug intermediates separately; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Drugs fall within Chapter 29 or 30 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and drug intermediates generally fall within Chapter 29 of the said First Schedule. While the general statutory basic duty on items covered by these Chapters is 100% advalorem, drugs generally carry an effective basic duty of 60% advalorem and drug intermediates, 70% advalorem. Auxiliary duty at the rate of 40% advalorem and additional (countervailing) duty equal to Central Excise duty are leviable in addition. However, duty on various specified drugs and drug intermediates has been reduced in consultation with the administrative Ministry concerned and notifications issued in this respect from time to time have been laid on the Table of the House with Explanatory Memoranda.