

Import of Drugs

807. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have banned the import of certain Malaria drugs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have decided to review the ban; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The Government has not banned the import of any anti-malarial drug. However, import of new drugs need prior examination of safety and efficacy of the drug and approval in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and the Rules framed there under. Some new anti-malarial drugs are under difference stages of investigation in the country and accordingly have not yet been approved by the Government.

[Translation]

Development of Energy in India by Finland

808. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Finland have shown interest in power sector in India;
- (b) whether any agreement has been signed by the two countries in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Voters list of Indian Enclaves

809. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken by the Government to prepare the Voters list of Indian citizens residing in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh; and
- (b) the arrangements made in this regard so as to enable these Indian citizens to exercise their franchise at the time of next General Elections?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government of India have no administrative control or access to these enclaves lying within Bangladesh. Government have also no reliable figures of population in these enclaves.

Nerve Gas Plant in Iran by Tatas

810. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item reported in the Washington Times that Tatas are building plants for manufacture of nerve gas in Iran;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the report to ascertain the veracity of the news-item; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government has seen the "Washington Times" report of 30 January 1995 which alleged that three Indian companies, including Tata Consulting Engineering, were involved in the setting up of a secret poison gas complex in Iran.

(b) and (c) This report is incorrect. The three Indian companies are involved in a project for the construction of a pesticide plant in Iran. The project was awarded to the Indian companies, including Tata Consulting Engineering as a result of an open, international tender in which companies from all over the world participated.

Telugu-Ganga Project

812. SHRI R. ANBARASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu signed an agreement in regard to sharing of Water of Krishna under Telugu-Ganga project for the benefit of people of Madras city for drinking purposes;
- (b) if so, the cost of this project and the stage at which this project stand;
- (c) by when it is likely to be completed and drinking water is likely to be provided to Madras city under this project;
- (d) whether the Union Government had been asked for financial assistance for this project by Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) if so, the amount provided by the Union Government for the purpose to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 1438 crores. About 80% of the physical works are reported to have been completed. The remaining works are likely to be completed by the end of the financial year 1995-96, which will bring water upto the border of Tamil Nadu. The works for treatment, distribution of water in Madras will be taken up under a separate project, viz., the III Madras Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation Project which is yet to start.

- (d) There is no such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.
- (e) Does not arise.