

[Translation]

Criteria for allotment of kerosene to States

2899. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for allotment of quota of kerosene to various States;

(b) whether an appreciable increase had been made in the monthly quota of some States last year;

(c) if so, the monthly quota of Uttar Pradesh and whether this quota had also been increased; and

(d) if not, the reaction of Government to the request of the State Government to increase its monthly quota of kerosene ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The requirements of kerosene of various States and Union Territories, including Uttar Pradesh, are assessed by allowing a 5 per cent growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, on a four-month-block basis, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocations, additional ad-hoc releases are also made to meet specific situations like flood, drought, cyclone, shortage of LPG/soft coke, etc.

(b) No such increase was made during 1985-86.

(c) The normal monthly allocation to Uttar Pradesh during the recent winter block (November, 1986 to February, 1987) was 54,990 tonnes. Ad-hoc allocations to the extent of over 7,000 tonnes per month have also been made to U.P. during the same period. For the summer block (March to June, 1987) the normal monthly allocation of 54,033 tonnes has been supplemented by ad-hoc allocations of over 6,800 tonnes per month.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Concession provided by drug manufacturers to weaker section of society

2900. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether drug manufacturers have assured Government that they would give a concession of 33 per cent in mark-up for drugs for weaker section and vulnerable section of society;

(b) if so, the extent to which this assurance has been implemented by them; and

(c) the items on which concessions are being provided by the drug manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association/ (IDMA), Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), Pharmaceutical and Allied Products Manufacturers and Distributors Association (PAMDAL) and All India Manufacturers' Organisation/ (AIMO) have given a memorandum indicating their willingness to make available essential drugs at reduced prices to Government hospitals, provided certain additional incentives in the shape of increase in post-tax return, packaging charges, trade margins etc. (to be absorbed in the prices) are given to the industry.

(c) Concessions are sometimes given on Hospital purchases by manufacturers but this is done in individual cases.

Price of imported Methanol

2901. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have recently reduced the price of imported methanol; and