

(iii) The Corporation shall have an authorised share capital of Rs. 800 crores.

(iv) The Corporation will have authority to accept fixed deposits and resort to market borrowings through debentures etc.

(c) Employees recruited by Bombay and Delhi Telephones will be transferred to the Corporation to the extent posts are available.

(d) Commercial aspects will form one of the important considerations for the Corporation.

Programme of ONGC for oil recovery in Seventh Plan

372. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has recently enhanced oil recovery programme during the Seventh Plan period ;

(b) if so, the total expenditure likely to be incurred on this programme ;

(c) whether, Government propose to take any assistance from other countries in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) ONGC has programmes for introducing enhanced oil recovery techniques. During the 7th Plan period they have 9 such pilot projects to be implemented.

(b) Rs. 52.30 crores.

(c) & (d). Back up consultancy is being sought from M/s Keplinger Associates of USA and M/s Scientific Software Inter-comp, USA for two of the pilot projects,

Power shortages

373. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delegates from the neighbouring states have represented to the Government to tide over the current acute power shortages ;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held with the delegates ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate power to the neighbouring States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c). Requests and representations from various States are received from time to time for assistance from the neighbouring States to tide over power shortages. Assistance is given to these States to the extent possible depending upon the power supply position in the neighbouring States and the availability from the Central Stations.

Price control on medicines

374. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Members of Parliament have voiced serious concern at the "Virtual looting" of consumers by the drug industry and called for a strict price control covering all medicines ;

(b) whether Government have taken any action on the representation of M.Ps. ; and

(c) if so, full details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R.K.

JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) A memorandum signed by 34 Members of Parliament has been received which sets out their views on the Drug Policy and urges the Government to exercise strict price control on medicines.

(b) & (c). The various view points are kept in mind in formulating the New Drug Policy.

Performance of public sector undertakings in chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals

375. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting was held with him to review the performance of public sector undertakings in the chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals industry ;

(b) if so, details of the discussions held ; and

(c) to what extent the working of the public sector undertakings and pharmaceutical industry will be improved during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides the review of the performance of the public sector undertakings the following points were emphasized :

- (i) No laxity on safety and overall environmental protection.
- (ii) Adoption of new management techniques.
- (iii) Inventory control and the possibility of raising additional resources for the Seventh Five Year Plan.
- (iv) Technology upgradation and rationalization of product-mix.
- (v) Identifying short-term and long-term goals for the undertakings

and evolving suitable programmes of diversification.

(vi) Improvement in marketing practices so as to reach a pre-eminent position.

(vii) Conducting training programmes/ short refresher courses for improvement of management skills in the various Divisions of the undertakings.

(c) During Seventh plan period Public Sector Undertakings in the Chemical Sector will continue to be a source of Chemicals/Chemical intermediates needed in dyestuffs, rubber chemicals, pharmaceuticals and basic pesticides for National Malaria Eradication Programme.

The objective of public sector drug undertakings in the Seventh Plan is to continue making available essential and life saving bulk drugs and formulations and to reach break-even level of performance. By the terminal year of the Seventh Five Year Plan (1989-90), it is anticipated that indigenous production of bulk drugs would be Rs. 808.4 crores while that of drug formulations Rs. 3775 crores.

'No industry' areas in States

376. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently asked the State Governments to identify and comment on 'no-industry' areas in their respective States ;

(b) if so, the time by which such comments have been asked for by Government ; and

(c) the purpose for asking comments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c). Do not arise,