

and the reasons for giving this increase; and

(c) is it proposed to draw up a scheme to protect the poor consumers in regard to prices of medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Prices of bulk drugs are revised by the Government from time to time under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1970. A statement showing increases/decreases since 1970 in prices including import prices of 42 important bulk drugs produced indigenously, on the basis of its cost/cost-cum-technical examination is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1340/77.] The increases/decreases were allowed to give effect to increases/decreases in the input/material costs. Based on the prices of the said bulk drugs, consequential revision in prices of formulations have also been allowed to the concerned manufacturers.

(c): Price increases or decreases are inherent in the operation of statutory price control. The Anti Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry have, *inter alia*, recommended rationalisation of prices of drugs. The recommendations of the Committee are in the final stages of consideration.

Issue of Licence to M/s C. E. Fulford (I) P. Ltd.

3632. **SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. C. E. Fulford (I) P. Ltd. have been given a licence for production of Gentamycin Sulphate and formulations during the recent past;

(b) if so, the number of licence, the capacity of each item, the value etc.;

(c) the reasons for giving such a licence to this multinational firm when

know-how for these simple formulations is available with Indian firms; and

(d) the names of Indian firms who applied for similar formulations during the past three years and the extent of approvals given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No; Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) During the course of last 3 years, the following Indian firms have applied for formulations based on Gentamycin Sulphate.

1. M/s. Euphoric Ltd.
2. M/s. Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.
3. M/s. Tamil Nadu Dadha Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
4. M/s. Standard Pharmaceuticals.

The firms at Serial Nos. 1 to 3 have been granted necessary Industrial Licences. The application of the firm at Sl. No. 4 is under consideration.

Railway Line between Goalpara-Gauhati

3633. **SHRI AHMED HUSSAIN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board had asked the Gauhati University to survey the economic viability of providing Railway line between Goalpara-Gauhati, Goalpara-Tura and Bridge over Brahmaputra near Joghghopa and Pancharatna;

(b) whether the University has already submitted its report recommending the Railway line and Bridge; and

(c) the likely date when the project will be sanctioned and the target date being fixed for completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). A transport study for provision of a new broad gauge link from Joghghopa to Gauhati along the south bank of river Brahmaputra was entrusted to the Gauhati University at the cost of the Railways. The University completed only a portion of the study to cover the economic potential of the area but the quantum of traffic and the cost of the project were not worked out. It was, however, stated by them that there appeared to be a case for construction of the project but this was not considered sufficient for taking a decision on the scheme.

A preliminary engineering-cum-traffic surveys for a new rail link from Joghghopa/Pancharatna-Darangiri via Dudhnai and another link from Gauhati to Dudhnai have recently been carried out at the cost of North-Eastern Council. No decision regarding construction of the projects has been taken so far.

Dislocation in Train Services in Tamil Nadu on the day of arrest of Mrs. Gandhi

3634. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any dislocation in train services was caused in Tamil Nadu area on the day of arrest of Mrs. Gandhi; and

(b) if so, the extent of damages caused may be indicated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) There was no dislocation of train services. However, punctuality of 27 Mail and Express, 21 passengers and 9 suburban trains was affected.

(b) No damage to railway property was caused.

Reinstatement of Employees who went on Strike in 1974

3635. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry issued an order on 6th April, 1977 for reinstatement of all striking employees who had gone on strike in 1974;

(b) if so, whether a copy thereof would be supplied;

(c) whether the South Eastern Railway Administration has not yet implemented it *in toto*; and

(d) if so, the names of such employees as have not so far been given relief under the said order and the details of their cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the relevant order to the General Managers of the Railways is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1341/77.*]

(c) and (d). The South Eastern Railway has implemented the orders except in a few cases indicated below, for reasons beyond the Administration's control.

The information is given below:—

1. Reinstatement of employees who were dismissed, removed or had their services terminated.

Out of 182 who were out of service on 28th February 1977 only two now remain out of service as they are undergoing life imprisonment.

2. Taking back to duty of those under suspension.

All the 39 persons who were under suspension on 28th February 1977 have been taken back to service.

3. Employees initially taken as fresh entrants but now treated as having been reinstated.