

Pfizer in or prior to July 1960 did not arise, as per information received from Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

(e) 4996 equity (ordinary) shares of M/s Dumex Private Limited held by East Asiatic Company (India) Private Ltd., Bombay, as referred to in part (a), were transferred to M/s Pfizer Corporation, Panama on 27.1.1961. The balance of 15,000 redeemable preference shares held by the East Asiatic Company (India) Private Ltd. were redeemed on 2-1-1961. The connection of this Indian-incorporated company with M/s Dumex Private Ltd. was thus severed in 1961.

Increase in Publication of Obscene Literature

10104. PROF. SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether publication and circulation of obscene literature including monthlies/fortnightlies and weeklies have abnormally increased;

(b) if so, facts thereabout;

(c) whether Government propose to take steps for curbing such publications eroding cultural basis of national life;

(d) whether Government propose to stop giving advertisements to such magazines after giving them necessary warning; and

(e) if so, facts thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) It is not possible to say that publication and circulation of obscene literature has abnormally increased, as no separate statistics are maintained on such literature. As a matter of fact Newspapers, books and printing presses' is a subject included in List III of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. Executive powers in this regard is exercised by the State Governments through their enforcement agencies. Adequate legal provisions also exist in

the Indian Penal Code to deal with obscene and objectionable publications. The responsibility of enforcing these provisions again vest with the State Governments.

(c) to (e) In the Advertisement policy of the Central Government, there is already a provision to the effect that advertisements will not be issued to newspapers and periodicals which offend socially accepted conventions of public decency and morals. Government are of the view that the existing laws of the land are sufficient to deal with such matters. Moreover, the Press Council which has come into being will also exercise its moral authority over the Press on such matters.

Protest from A.I.R. Staff on Suspension of Announcer of J.P.'s Death

10105. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Radio Staff at various Stations including at Trivandrum protested on the issue of the Suspension of All India Radio announcer in connection with erroneous announcement about the death of J.P.;

(b) if so, details therein; and

(c) his reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) On the 24th March, 1979, an Announcer of All India Radio started the Urdu Majlis Programme by playing a tape intended for broadcast in the event of anything unfortunate happening to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan who was seriously ill at that time, instead of the scheduled programme contained in another tape. The wrong tape went on for about five minutes before it was faded out by the Announcer when the error came to light. Considering the gravity of the error, the delinquent Announcer and a Transmission Executive on duty at