

(b) to (d). The offers received are under consideration. A decision is expected to be taken soon. The Honourable Member would appreciate that it will not be in the public interest to disclose further details at this stage.

Film produced by Government of Tripura

13. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Tripura produced three films;

(b) if so, the details of the film and the amount spent for that;

(c) whether these films were shown in Delhi; and

(d) if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (d). Information is being collected from the State Government of Tripura and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prices of Erythromycin Stearate Produced by M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals

14. SHRI S. S. DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that declared price of Erythromycin Stearate manufactured by M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals were not accepted whereas prices of several other foreign companies were accepted;

(b) what are the reasons for this discrimination; and

(c) whether D.P.R.C. have been recommending prices of bulk drugs without basing them on any guideline

if so, whether recommendations of DPRC were accepted with the approval of Minister?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government is empowered under paragraph 4 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 to fix the prices of Essential Bulk Drugs after such enquiry as it deems fit for the purpose. Accordingly, Government fixed a price of Rs. 1300/- per kg. for Erythromycin Stearate which is one of the Essential Bulk Drugs. For an essential bulk drug like Erythromycin, the question of acceptance of declared prices does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Drugs prices Review Committee makes its recommendations in regard to the prices of indigenously produced bulk drugs either on the basis of the cost study conducted by the BICP or keeping in view the prices of imported drugs fixed for CPC/IDPL, import content per unit of production, existing prices approved for such bulk drugs and such other relevant considerations. Decision on the recommendations made by the D.P.R.C. is taken with the approval of competent authority.

Functions of Committees which organised Seventh International Film Festival

15. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Seventh International Film Festival was held in New Delhi in January 1979;

(b) if so, whether special Committees were constituted for the organisation of the Festival;

(c) details of the different committees, the functions of these committees, the names of the members of these committees;

(d) whether any allowances were paid to the non-official members of these committees;

(e) whether any travelling allowance was paid to the members of these committee members; and

(f) the total amount of daily allowance and travelling allowance paid to the members of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3261/79]

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir.

(f) Rs. 27,148.50

Development of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry

16. SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been constraints on development of Indian pharmaceutical industry during last three years; and what were incentives given to Indian sector of this industry in the recent past; and

(b) what are reasons for slow growth of Indian pharmaceutical industry as compared to foreign sector and if a study of this case has been made by an official group; the observations arrived at by such a study?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No constraints on the development of the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry seem to be evident during the last 3 years.

Several measures of direction, control and encouragement have been included in the New Drug Policy which will direct, incidentally, the activities of foreign drug companies to subserve national objectives and interest. Some specific measures of preference to be given to Indian Sector Units are as follows:—

(i) While licensing units for the manufacture of bulk drugs, the Indian companies (other than MRTP units) are being asked to part with 30 per cent of their production to non-associated formulators, as against 50 per cent in the case of foreign firms. In other words, such Indian companies can formulate upto 70 per cent of their production as against only 50 per cent by the foreign sector.

(ii) Certain restrictions which were being applied on the industry requiring units having a turnover of Rs. 2 crores and more to produce the bulk drugs required for new formulations, have now been removed for the Indian sector. The Indian Sector can take up additional formulation activity, provided the turnover of their formulations and bulk drugs is within the ratio of 10:1 whereas the ratio for foreign firms is restricted to only 5:1.

(iii) Industrial licences for the production of formulations will not be issued to the foreign sector unless linked with production of high technology bulk drugs from the basic stage.

(iv) A number of bulk drugs have been earmarked for production by the Public/Indian sectors of the industry.

(b) It does not appear as if there has been slow growth of the Indian Pharmaceutical industry. The Hathi Committee on the Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry in their Report dated April 1975 observed that there were 116 organised sector drug units, of which only 34 were foreign units. The rest were Indian units. As of May