

(b) The sales turnover of drugs and antibiotics during the year 1975-76 was of the order of Rs. 48.12 crores as against Rs. 33.28 crores during 1974-75.

(c) and (d). IDPL have proposed to set up the following two new units during the Fifth Five Year Plan period:

- (1) Nicotinamide Plant at Bettiah in Bihar; and
- (2) Formulation Unit at Gurgaon in Haryana.

The salient features of the Nicotinamide Plant have been indicated in the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 142 answered in the Lok Sabha on 9th March, 1976.

The Formulation Unit as proposed by IDPL envisages the manufacture of various types of formulations, like Tablets, Ampoules, Vials, Ointments and Syrups. It is expected to have also a highly efficient Research and Development wing as a part of the project.

Agreement with Libya for Oil Exploration

2712. SHRI B. S. BHAURA:
SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed an agreement with Libya for assisting that country in oil exploration; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b). Although the possibility of our entering into an agreement with Libya for oil exploration in that country has been discussed on several occasions including the visit of the Minister of Pet-

roleum to Libya in November, 1975, no agreement has yet been signed with Libya for the purpose. During the Minister's visit to Libya in November, 1975, a Protocol envisaging *inter alia* cooperation in oil exploration between the two countries was signed.

Disposal of Claims About Refund of Wharfage and Demurrage Charges

2713. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malabar Chamber of Commerce has submitted a memorandum regarding disposal of claims about refund of wharfage and demurrage charges with regard to transport of Nepal rice; and

(b) Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes

(b) No specific cases for refund of wharfage and demurrage were mentioned in the memorandum. The claims of refund of wharfage and demurrage are dealt with by the Railways on merits of each case as and when received.

Proposal to Construct Approach Roads to Stations between Samastipur and Muzaffarpur

2714. SHRI NAWAJ, KISHORE SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of proposals under consideration of Government to construct approach roads to railway stations falling between Samastipur and Muzaffarpur in Bihar on the North-Eastern Railway; and

(b) when is the said work likely to be taken up and when is it proposed to be completed?