

**Central Aid to Kerala for 1968-69**

9605. SHRI P. C. ADICHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central aid requested for by the Kerala Government for the 1968-69 Plan of that State :

(b) how far this aid has been granted to that State and the extent of curbs imposed ; and

(c) the nature of the schemes which are likely to be affected as a result of the curbs in the aid demanded by the State ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). The State Government did not ask for any specific amount of Central assistance for their Annual Plan of 1968-69. The Central assistance allocated to them for 1968-69 amounts to Rs. 30.40 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

**Over-Time for Foremen of Government of India Press, New Delhi**

9606. SHRI DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Foremen of the Government of India Press, New Delhi had claimed over-time allowance for 4 to 6 hours daily for having worked over-time for 2 hours only during the last 3 years ; and

(b) if so, whether any scrutiny had been done regarding the legitimacy of the claims preferred by the foremen in the past ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Manufacture of Quinidine Sulphate in India**

9607. SHRI HIMATSINGKA : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that quinidine

sulphate, life saving drug for certain type of heart patients, which used to be manufactured in India by M/s. Burroughs Wellcome till about 2 years ago, is no longer manufactured in India ;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the principal ingredients for this medicine are available in India and are exported and if so, the reasons for stopping the manufacture of this medicine within the country; and

(c) whether it is a fact that price of the imported drug is about Rs.144/-per 25 tablets, when the price of the indigenously manufactured drug was only Rs. 12 per 100 tablets ; and

(d) if so, why the manufacture of this drug is not revived in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) The basic drug 'Quinidine Sulphate' has not so far been manufactured in India by M/s. Burroughs Wellcome and Co. The question of discontinuance of its manufacture by the firm does not arise. However, M/s. Burroughs Wellcome continue to process 'Tablet Quinidine Sulphate' from bulk Quinidine Sulphate.

(b) The drug Quinidine Sulphate which is the principal ingredient of 'Tablet Quinidine Sulphate' is manufactured in the country by (1) Cinchona Department West Bengal at their Factory at Mungpoo, (2) M/s. Mehta Pharmaceuticals, Amritsar and (3) the Chemical, Industrial and Pharmaceutical Laboratories (CIPLA), Bombay. The State Governments of Madras and West Bengal have been requested to release Quinidine Sulphate for export, only after the domestic demand is met.

(c) At present tablets of Quinidine Sulphate are not permitted to be imported on a commercial basis. The wholesale and retail prices of the indigenously manufactured "Tablet Quinidine Sulphate 200 mg", marketed by M/s. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. are Rs. 32.99 and Rs. 37.94 respectively, for a pack of 100 tablets.

(d) Does not arise in view of replies to parts (a) and (b) above.