

agreed to supply the requisite power ;

- (vi) No objection certificate for the disposal of effluent has been obtained from the U.P. Pollution Control Board.

After consideration of various factors, Government have decided that the project should be handled by National Newsprint and Paper Mills Ltd. and that the company should prepare a fresh Detailed Project Report for consideration of Government.

Increase in Prices of Medicines

*505. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Increase in drug prices round the corner' appearing in the 'Financial Express' of 3 March, 1986 ;

(b) if so, the steps his Ministry is taking to save the consumer from exploitation of drug industry ; and

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal to have price control on individual drugs rather than on therapeutic groups ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The new Drug Policy including the Pricing Policy has not yet been finalised. The main objective of the New Drug Pricing Policy would be to ensure the abundant availability of good quality medicines at fair and reasonable prices.

Production of LPG Cylinders in Seventh Plan

*507. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK :

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY

be pleased to state :

(a) the targets set for the production of LPG cylinders in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) The details of the strategy for the distribution and production schedule of LPG cylinders in the country, region-wise, for the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :
(a) and (b). The annual requirement of LPG cylinders is estimated at 45-50 lakhs. The cylinders are procured from indigenous manufacturers by the oil companies, commensurate with their requirements.

Government Controls on Drug Industry

*508. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as claimed by the organisation of Pharmaceuticals Producers of India Government Controls have hit the drug industry beyond repair ;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the indigenous drug manufacturers (both Indian and foreign-linked) have not been able to fulfil full drug needs of the country ; and

(d) whether it is due to the emphasis and diversion to the task of drug formulations at the cost of weaker sections of consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :
(a) It is not true that the controls have hit the pharmaceutical industry beyond repair.

(b) The Govt. have taken up review of the 1978 Drug Policy in order to improve the policy frame and to achieve better the primary objectives of the drug policy, namely, to ensure availability of medicines in abundance at fair and reasonable prices.