

(3) परिशोधना के लिए पर्यावरणालम्बक मंजूरी पर्यावरण एवं वन संचालन तथा उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य पदार्थन नियंत्रण बोर्ड दोनों से प्राप्त की गयी है।

#### Acquisition of shares in Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.

479. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :  
SHRI N. GIRIPRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have acquired the Nauru's Stake in the Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. at a cost of 68.3 million Australian Dollars;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. is running at loss since its inception in 1986;

(c) if so, what factors have necessitated the Government to acquire the Nauru's Stakes in the company; and

(d) what plans are proposed to run the PPL profitably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) has been incurring losses ever since it commenced commercial production in August, 1986, except in 1988-89 and 1991-92 when it earned profits of Rs. 12.02 crores and Rs. 13.08 crores, respectively.

(c) The Government of Nauru have been expressing their desire to withdraw from the company and sell their equity to the Government of India or its nominee.

(d) With the announcement of a concession of Rs. 1000 per tonne on the sale of indigenously manufactured DAP during the current Kharif Season, PPL would be in a position to sell DAP in competition with the imported DAP. This will help PPL to reduce its losses.

#### Import duty cut on some drugs

480. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the drugs on which import duty has been curtailed in the 1993 Budget and whether the Drug producing firms have

reduced the prices to reflect the cut in the duty, if so, the names of such drugs;

(b) Whether Government have made any survey to ensure that the reduction of duty is reflected in the retail prices of the drugs; and

(c) if so, what are the findings and what action has been proposed where the reduction in duty has not been passed on to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) In the budget announced for the year 1993-94, the following changes have been announced regarding customs duty on bulk drugs :—

(i) Customs duty on four bulk drugs has been reduced from 110% to 80%.

(ii) Customs duty on four bulk drugs has been reduced from 110-80% to 25%.

(iii) The customs duty on bulk drugs used in the manufacture of life saving drugs and medicines as specified in Notification No. 208/81-Cus dated 22-9-81 has been exempted and Notification No. 45/79-Cus dated 1-3-79, vide which custom duty exemption was granted on various bulk drugs, has been rescinded.

(iv) The maximum general duty slab on bulk drugs has also been reduced from 110 to 85%.

The names of such bulk drugs are given in the respective Notifications issued by Ministry of Finance on 28-2-93, copy of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Due to reduction of custom duty on various bulk drugs and drug intermediates/raw materials as announced in the budget for the year 1993-94, the Government has reduced the prices of 35 bulk drugs under price control on 17-6-93. Due to the impact of reduction in prices of these bulk drugs, BICP has been asked to work out the revised prices of formulations based on these drugs. For the purpose of reducing the prices of non-scheduled drugs and formulations based thereon, the matter has been taken up with the Industry Associations.

#### Manufacture of Gentamycin

481. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of Gentamycin has been reserved for Public Sector Companies; if so, the names of the Companies producing the drug and the quantity thereof;

(b) the names of the private companies with capacity, which are producing Gentamycin and whether any company has developed indigenous technology for the production of this drug; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the requirements of this drug by indigenous production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s. Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. have been producing Gentamycin in the Public Sector. This company has, however, stopped production of Gentamycin recently due to higher cost of production and availability of cheaper imported bulk drug. The details of production during the last three years are given below:—

Year		Production
1990—91	—	1635.4 Kg.
1991—92	—	841.5 Kg.
1992—93	—	87.9 Kg.

M/s. Andhra Synthetics and Antibiotics Ltd. has reportedly developed indigenous technology.

(c) This aspect is under examination.

#### Problem of DAP manufacturing units

482. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:  
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:  
SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV  
'RAVI':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 out of 11 di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) manufacturing units in the country have closed down since April this year;

(b) whether the increased cost of the imported raw materials and low price of DAP imports vis-a-vis the domestic products have been the reasons for closure of these units;

(c) whether it is a fact that the industry representatives have met the government and suggested some measures for the survival of these units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) Six out of the ten DAP units in the country had suspended production from March, 1993 onwards. However, four such units, have since resumed production.

(b) The main reasons for suspension of production by some of the DAP units were increased rupee cost of imported raw materials following unification of exchange rate; which increased their cost of production, and low price of imported DAP.

(c) The fertilizer industry had inter alia suggested that at least 20% customs duty may be imposed on imported DAP or, alternatively, an incentive of at least Rs. 1000 per tonne of DAP may be given to the manufacturers.

(d) Government of India has recently announced a concession of Rs. 1000 per tonne on the sale of indigenous DAP to the farmers during the current Kharif season. No such concession has been given on the imported DAP. This has enabled the DAP units to resume production.

#### Increase in International Fares

483. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase international fares by 15 per cent from mid June this year with respect to all passengers flying by Air India or any foreign airlines;

(b) if so, what are the details of the revised tariff structure; and

(c) what are the reasons for the enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Government have approved an increase of 15% in international fares ex-India effective from 16-6-1993. This increase is uniformly applicable on all International fare types to all destinations outside India in respect of all airlines.

(c) The increase is mainly to reduce the disparity between inbound and outbound fares.