

500 million over a period of 5 years. Sir, M/s MAS Holdings is a fully integrated group with ownership in textile supply chain. With the entry of M/s MAS Holdings into Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh is positioned to become an intimate and sportswear apparel hub in South Asia.

The location selected by company for its proposed project is in a backward area which is not even connected with a good road. Moreover, it will create over 30,000 jobs, particularly for the Below Poverty Line women and help in the overall development of the area.

This project is at an advanced stage of development. The Government of India has already accorded its formal approval to the project as an SEZ. M/s MAS Holdings has already approached the Ministry of Textiles to include their project under SITP Scheme for financial assistance.

In view of the above position, I urge upon the Government to consider the project under SITP Scheme for financial assistance at an early date to create jobs, particularly BPL women and also overall development of the area. Thank you.

Demand to revive the Public Sector Units involved in the vaccine manufacturing to maintain the availability of vaccine in the country

MS. MABEL REBELLO (Jharkhand): Sir, in January, 2008, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare suspended the licenses of three crucial suppliers of vaccines - the Central Research Institute in Kasauli, BCG Vaccine Laboratory in Chennai and Pasteur Institute of India in Coonoor. These three units together met 80 per cent of the country's vaccine requirements under the Universal Immunisation Programme.

The Government could not procure vaccines because the private manufacturers had hiked their prices during this period which strained the budget of the Ministry enormously. The vaccine cost of DPT and BCG for 2008-09 was Rs. 64.20 crores as compared to Rs. 32.20 crores in the previous year. This is when the Ministry procured less and delivered less.

Now, the Ministry has commissioned HLL Lifecare Limited to build an integrated vaccine complex at Chennai. This PSU, having no experience in vaccine manufacturing, will procure bulk vaccines from private manufacturers, repackage the same and sell. This will benefit private Pharmaceuticals. Vaccine shortage is already taking the lives of children.

Sir, availability of vaccine has fallen by 30 per cent in different States. The Ministry must take urgent steps to revive the public sector units, to supply affordable and quality vaccines. Vaccine policy must be in place to prevent short-sighted decisions, which impact lives of millions.

The President's Address, on June 4, 2009, promises that the vaccine producing institutes in the public sector will be revived to support the immunization programme. Now, action must be taken urgently and decisively to revive these units. Thank you.