

companies within a period of 8 weeks from the date of the judgement and thereafter to fix the prices within two weeks from the date of conclusion of the hearing. Hearing was given to the concerned companies as per the directions of the Supreme Court and further action has been taken as per due process of law. Some amounts have been recovered from some of the companies.

#### **Decontrolling prices of finished medicines**

2356. SHRI BEKAL UTSABI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have exempted the imported finished medicines from price control under DPCO, 1987;

(b) whether it is also a fact that none of the imported medicines are based on drugs included for price control under categories I and II;

(c) if so, how exemption of imported formulations will help boosting of indigenous production;

(d) whether it is also a fact that prices of imported inactivated Rabies Vaccine, Measles Vaccine, MMR Vaccine Meningococcal Vaccine and other Vaccines and sera have gone up by 15 per cent to 50 per cent after the announcement of DPCO, 1987; and

(e) if so, what is the justification for these increases of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. All imported formulations falling under Categories I and II are price controlled.

(b) and (c) The importers of non-scheduled formulations are required to work-out their prices with only 50 per cent margin on the landed cost as in the case of scheduled formulations and to furnish the details of proposed retail price in Form-3 as per provisions of DPCO, 1987. Government is empowered to fix the price of

any formulation including non-scheduled formulation wherever found necessary.

(d) and (e) No intimation in this regard has been received from the importers of the vaccines referred to in the question.

#### **Production of tonics and vitamins**

2357. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of drug companies concentrated mainly on the production of tonics and vitamin preparations in the past and made huge profits instead of producing essential medicines;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that all major ingredients such as enzymes iron salts, vitamins, etc., going into the production of tonics and vitamin preparations have been excluded from price control;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have increased the mark up by 40 per cent on these preparations; and

(d) if so, how these steps will discourage the productions of tonics and vitamin preparations and encourage the production of essential medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) Product mix of same companies indicated higher proportion of these items than other medicines. With a view to discouraging this trend, rate of MAPE for the most of the essential drugs has been increased to encourage their production where as all vitamin combination formulations have been kept under price control, under the DPCO, 1987.

#### **Exclusion of drugs from price control**

2358. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government excluded certain drugs from the list

recommended for price control by the Kelkar Committee;

(b) if so, on what basis these drugs were excluded from price control;

(c) whether Government are considering to exclude other drugs from price control on the same basis; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Kelkar Committee recommended items of drugs to be included in Category II and these had been incorporated in the Second Schedule to the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987. The Order was notified in the Gazette on 26th August, 1987 and copies thereof were laid on the Table of the House on 27th August, 1987. The term of the Kelkar Committee has been extended in August, 1987 for a period of six months to perform the function of reviewing any representations received by the Government regarding any discrepancies anomalies etc. in the list of new DPCO, 1987 and given its recommendation to the Government on the same.

#### Committee to look into the Import of Anti-TB Drug Intermediates

2359. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government appointed a Committee to look into the import of intermediates required for the production of potential anti-TB drug;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the terms of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Committee has since submitted its report; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND

PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) This Ministry have not appointed any such Committee.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Drug Price Rise under New DPCO

2360. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 208 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Seras Vaccines and a number of medicines have gone up very high during the last two months after the announcement of the New Drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that prices of a number of medicines are expected to go up by 60 per cent to 100 per cent within the next two/three months;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices are expected to be beyond the control of the common man; and

(d) if so, what is the purpose of such price control and how it will safeguard the consumer's interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) Manufacturers/importers of non scheduled formulations are free to revise the prices as per provisions of DPCO, 1987.

(b) to (d) Prices of scheduled bulk drugs and formulations will be regulated as per DPCO, 1987. However, the expected rise in prices will not be of this order. Government shall also be monitoring the prices of de-controlled drugs.

#### Increase in the Price of Aminophylline

2361. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 124 given in the