

December, 1983. The Government have decided to consider in consultation with the Central Trade Unions whether the present verification procedure needs any refinement in the light of previous experience and in the light of various suggestions and recommendations made. This, of course, is subject to the condition that any substantive change will need a formal approval of the Indian Labour Conference. The Government have decided to convene a meeting of the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations in this regard.

### Licences to produce Drugs

819. DR. JOSEPH LEON D'SOUZA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the manufacturers who are licensed to produce Amoxicillin, Erythromycin and its salts, Doxycycline, Tetracycline, Oxytetracycline, Chloramphenicol Powder; and Palmitate, their licensed capacity, installed capacity, authority number and date and what is their production during the last three years, year-wise of each company of each drug;

(b) what is the stage of manufacture of each drug permitted to each manufacturer and from which stage they are producing;

(c) in how many cases, foreign technology has been allowed and what is the technical fee paid in each case;

(d) what is the investment in plant and machinery made by each manufacturer for each drug;

(e) whether it is a fact that most of the plants for these drugs are not fully utilised and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(f) what is the price fixed by his Ministry for each drug and at what price formulation prices are fixed?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) To the extent details

are available names of manufacturers licensed to produce Amoxicillin, Erythromycin, Doxycycline, Tetracycline, Oxytetracycline, Chloramphenicol Powder/Palmitate alongwith details of capacity, authority number, date, their production during the last 3 years, year-wise, stage of manufacture allowed/actual, foreign collaboration, investment in plant machinery, etc., are given in the statement. [See Appendix CXXXI, Annexure No. 20.]

(e) Production of these bulk drugs had been commensurate with the market demand.

(f) The prices of bulk drugs fixed by my Ministry are as under:

Name of the bulk drug	Price Rs.
1. Amoxycillin	2229.00
2. Erythromycin Estolate	1700.00
3. Erythromycin Stearate	1006.00
4. Doxycycline	5890.00
5. Tetracycline	801.49
6. Oxytetracycline	847.30
7. Chloramphenicol Powder	756.00
8. Chloramphenicol Palmitate	733.00

Formulation prices are also based on bulk drug prices indicated above.

### High Price of Doxycycline

820. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG AI-YUBBAIG: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to the Starred Question 182 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th May, 1984 and state;

(a) whether it is a fact that instead of working out the magnitude of unintended benefits and collecting information from manufacturers of Doxycycline the prices of their formulations have been revised;

(b) whether it is a fact that Doxycycline is still being sold at a price of Rs. 4000/- per kg. and increase in prices have been allowed without verifying the purchase rate

and if so, under what circumstances and based on what considerations it was allowed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices of Doxycycline formulations have gone up by over 42 per cent and that such an increase in price is not justified;

(d) what are the documents which are verified before fixing formulation prices and who is responsible for such verification; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that formulators are making huge profits at the cost of poor patients?

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE):** (a) to (c) The price of bulk drugs are revised/fixed as per the provision of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. Market price is only an indicator and does not necessarily reflect the true cost of production. The process of recovery of unintended benefits, if any, is a parallel one. The revision in the price of Doxycycline formulations, whenever effected, is based on applications received from some manufacturers. Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices duly verified all documents required to be filed along with the application for revision of price in Form III including purchase invoices, before recommending the price for any formulation and hence no conclusion regarding huge profits by formulators can be drawn

#### Imports of drugs

821. **SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG AIYUBBAIG:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the imports of GAPA, TIDC, Gentamycin CCA, Tetracycline Urea Complex, Doxycycline Toluene Sulphate, Methyle preg by various companies during the last three years, year-wise with

the names of the companies, quantity imported of each item by each company;

(b) what are the sources from which imports have taken place and at what rates;

(c) what action was taken after these imports by various actual users came to the notice of his Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that imports of the above intermediates had affected indigenous production and if so, to what extent;

(e) what steps have been taken to recover unintended profits from these companies;

(f) at what price the final drug was sold by each company with name of the party and quantity sold of each drug; and

(g) what is the notified price of each final drug and from what stage?

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE):** (a) to (d) Import of drug intermediates is not being monitored by my Ministry. However, as and when reports about unauthorised import of drugs, drug intermediates, which are canalised, banned or absolutely banned for import, were received by my Ministry, the matter was taken up with the Ministry of Commerce/Finance or other concerned agencies for necessary remedial action. The impact of such unauthorised imports on the indigenous production cannot be quantified.

(e) to (g) Notices have been issued to the concerned manufacturers/formulators, under the relevant provisions of law whenever necessary. Details of the notified prices of the final drugs and the stage of manufacture on the basis of which price was fixed are given in statement.