

Monopoly of M/s. Glaxo Limited in the Production of Salbutamol and its formulations

1312. DR. JOSEPH LEON D'SOUZA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 83 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd November, 1981 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo Limited wanted to monopolise the production of Salbutamol and its formulations by refusing to part with any portion of their indigenous production of Salbutamol; if so, whether the proposal of Glaxo was principally accepted by his Ministry;

(b) whether M/s. Glaxo Limited accepted the conditions of letter of intent granted to them for the production of Salbutamol; if not, why the letter of intent was not lapsed in August, 1975 itself; and

(c) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo Limited are not producing any bulk drug from basic stages and have imported bulk drugs and intermediates in the process depriving the country of much needed foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Glaxo had represented against one of the conditions of the Letter of Intent stating that it would comply with the condition of supply of 50 per cent of Salbutamol production to non-associated formulators after 5 years during which period it would export drugs and pharmaceuticals to the value of 50 per cent of their Salbutamol base production. This was not agreed to by Government.

(b) within the validity period of the Letter of Intent M/s. Glaxo had represented against one of the conditions therein and correspondence with the Company continued on the subject. Hence the Letter of Intent was not treated as lapsed in August, 1975.

(c) Glaxo is producing some bulk drugs from basic stages. The company has also imported some bulks and intermediates.

Monopoly of CIPLA in the Production of Salbutamol

1313. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CIPLA is a monopoly producer of Salbutamol, one of the essential life-saving drugs which is being marketed by CIPLA at Rs. 35,000 per kg;

(b) whether it is a fact that the import of this basic drug Salbutamol over the past 3 years has shot up by over 200 per cent from 177.20 kgs. in 1978-79 to 406.21 in 1980-81;

(c) whether the import of Rs. 40 lakhs worth of Salbutamol constitutes a massive avoidable drain of foreign exchange which the country can ill-afford;

(d) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo Limited, has agreed to import foreign technology free of cost and without any technological cost or royalty and also to sell the Salbutamol at the cost of Rs. 15,000 per kg; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, how many letters of intent for conversion into an industrial licence are pending before Government?