

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from Shri Mukesh B. Gadhvi, MP for allotment of rakes at Disa station for transportation of fertilizers and seeds. Since, there is no goods shed/rake point at Disa station, question of placement of rake at this station does not arise.

Waiving of debt of fertilizer units

2668. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer units owe Rs. 14500 crore in principle and interest to Central Government and some other public sector units;

(b) whether Government has received any representation regarding waiving of debt of fertilizer units so that eight closed fertilizer units could be opened against;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Closed Fertilizer PSUs namely FCIL and HFCL owe more than Rs. 14500 crore in principal and interest to Central Government and some other public sector units.

(b) to (d) The Competent Authority has accorded in principle approval to consider waiver of outstanding GoI Loan and interest subject to submission of fully tied up proposals. Thereafter, the Cabinet has constituted an Empowered Committee of Secretaries to evaluate the various options for revival of the 8 closed units of FCIL and HFCIL.

Revival of fertilizer plant at Haldia

2669. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is actively considering to revive the fertilizer plant situated in Haldia, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely time-frame by which the revival would be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Cabinet has constitute an Empowered Committee of Secretaries to evaluate the various options for revival of the 8 closed units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited and Hindustan Fertilizer

Corporation of India Limited (HFCL), including the fertilizer plant at Haldia, West Bengal of HFCL. At this stage no definite timelines can be indicated.

Pharmaceutical units in Maharashtra

†2670. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small pharmaceutical units in operation in Maharashtra at present along with their details, location-wise;

(b) the number of units, out of the above, manufacturing medicines on contract basis; and

(c) the number along with the names of those companies out of above units, separately marketing their generic products and branded medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The drug manufacturing licences are granted by the Office of DCG(I)/State Drugs Control Authorities. As such, details are not available/monitored by this Department.

Opening of Government medical stores

†2671. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any roadmap to control the prices of lifesaving medicines;

(b) whether Government contemplates to open Government medical stores in all cities of the country for providing such medicines to the common man at controlled fair rates and whether some such medical stores have already been opened;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Supreme Court in its interim order dated 10.3.2003 in SLP(C) No. 3668/2003 directed the Government, *inter alia*, to “consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control and further directed to review drugs which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003”. As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare reviewed the National Essential Drugs List 1996 and brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 (NLEM 2003). Keeping in view the directions of the Supreme Court it has been proposed in the Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 that basket of drugs for price control would be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.