

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Government has proposed to encourage opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores with active support of State Government through Government Hospitals/ NGOs/ charitable bodies etc. in Government Hospital premises or at other suitable places in each district of the country to provide unbranded generic medicines at affordable prices for all. Till now 81 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in the States of Punjab (20), Rajasthan (36), Haryana (04), Uttarakhand (02), Andhra Pradesh (03), Odisha (08), West Bengal (02), Delhi (03) and Chandigarh (03).

Fertilizer plants

500. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any fertilizer unit has been closed in the last ten years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any new fertilizer plant has been commissioned in the last ten years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether fertilizer is imported from abroad; and
- (f) if so, the value of fertilizer imported for the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) in the public sector have been closed down as per details below:

(i) FCIL:

Name of unit	Date of commissioning	Date of shutdown	Date of Government decision to close down
Sindri	1979	March, 2002	5.9.2002
Gorakhpur	1969	1990	18.7.2002
Talcher	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Ramagundam	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Korba	Never commissioned	Not applicable	30.7.2002

(ii) HFCL:

Name of unit	Date of commissioning	Date of shutdown	Date of Government decision to close down
Barauni	1976	1999	5.9.2002
Durgapur	1974	1997	5.9.2002
Haldia	Never commissioned	Not applicable	18.7.2002

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No fertilizer plant has been commissioned in the Government Sector.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Urea is imported from abroad to meet the gap between demand and indigenous production. During the last 5 years, urea amounting to approx. US\$ 7100 Million has been imported from the abroad.

Revival of fertilizer manufacturing plants

†501. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively considering an action-plan for revival of closed fertilizer manufacturing units all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received a number of complaints regarding non-availability of fertilizers during the year 2010-11;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether existing fertilizer units of the country have failed to fulfil the demand of fertilizers in the country; and

(f) if so, to what extent revival of these closed fertilizer manufacturing units will be able to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL), Fertilizer Corporation India Ltd. (FCIL). An Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government. ECOS has considered various

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.