

Pharmaceutical Policy

23. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pharmaceutical policy has been finalized;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, by when the same would be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, based on the recommendations of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Pharmaceuticals) and the Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission as well as feedback received from other stakeholders the Government have formulated a Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 (Part-A— excluding pricing) which has been circulated to various departments/ stakeholders seeking their comments. Based on the comments received the Government is likely to finalize the new Policy shortly.

Supply of chemical fertilizers

†24. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that supply of chemical fertilizers does not commensurate with its demand for the past few years in the country;
- (b) if so, since when there is shortage of fertilizers in the country;
- (c) the details of gap between the demand and supply since the year 2004, year-wise; and
- (d) whether there is any possibility to scotch this gap in the coming years and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[17 February, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) Details of assessed demand, availability and sales of major fertilizers since the 2004 is as under:—

(Qty. in lakh MT)

	Season	Assessed Demand	Availability	Sales	Closing Stock
URE	Kharif 2004	105.73	106.60	97.82	8.79
	Rabi 2004-05	108.35	117.08	107.67	9.40
	Kharif 2005	114.39	116.20	107.67	8.53
	Rabi 2005-06	119.86	125.56*		
DAP	Kharif 2004	31.21	33.31	23.65	9.65
	Rabi 2004-05	39.39	40.23	37.13	3.11
	Kharif 2005	33.45	36.81	25.17	11.63
	Rabi 2005-06	44.61	48.92*		
MOP	Kharif 2004	10.84	12.53	10.99	1.53
	Rabi 2004-05	12.37	13.33	12.11	1.22
	Kharif 2005	13.89	18.82	13.25	9.54
	Rabi 2005-06	14.99	25.49*		

*Estimated Availability

(d) The Department is supplementing availability through imports as and when required.

Prime Minister's Task Force for drug price ceiling

25. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Task Force has recommended for fixing ceiling on the drug prices and the same can be linked to the Wholesale Price Index;

(b) whether the Task Force has also recommended that the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 be given a legislative framework;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the other major recommendations made by the Task Force; and

(e) the action Government have taken, so far, on this recommendation?