

take appropriate action against the sale of non-standard fertilizers. Violation of provisions of FCO can invite penal action, including prosecution of offenders. The offender who is convicted may be awarded the sentence upto seven years imprisonment under ECA, besides cancellation of authorization certificate. Moreover State Governments have been sensitized from time to time on the issue of sales, manufacture, distribution and quality of fertilizers conforming of FCO standards.

Acquisition of Indian pharma companies by MNCs

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

(a) whether, in the light of the acquisition of Indian pharma companies by MNCs, it is a fact that a stage is not far off when we may not have a company ready to manufacture drugs on behalf of Government in spite of invoking 'compulsory licence' provisions; and

(b) if so, how Government is planning to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals had requested the Department of Commerce to conduct a study on the recent takeovers of Indian companies by the MNCs. Thereafter, the recommendation could be placed before the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and/or the Competent Authority. The report from Ernst and Young has since been received. With a view to examine the issues involved in a broader perspectives, Planning Commission has with the approval of the Hon'ble Prime Minister constituted a High Level Committee (HLC) under the Chairpersonship of Shri Arun Maira, Member (Industry), Planning Commission to consider all the relevant aspects. This High Level Committee has since submitted its report to the Hon'ble Prime Minister. As per recent press note 3(2011) issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion on 07.11.2011:—

- (i) FDI, upto 100%, under the automatic route, would continue to be permitted for greenfield investments in the Pharmaceuticals sector.
- (ii) FDI upto 100%, would be permitted for brownfield investment (*i.e.* investments in existing companies), in the pharmaceuticals sector, under the Government approval route.

Import of fertilizers

512. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of various fertilizers imported during each of the last three years in the country;