

(c) whether fertilizers are exported clandestinely even though farmers in the country are facing shortage of fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Fertilizers has allowed export fertilizers with specific reasons such as (i) where material was imported with the pre-declaration for re-export, (ii) to export Pharmaceutical Grade of Fertilizers like MOP and Urea after ensuring that the same was manufactured by using Industrial grades of these fertilizers obtained by paying full market price and not the concessional prices and (iii) for export of a little quantity of fertilizer to Nepal keeping in view the diplomatic relations of our Country. The quantity for which permissions are given by this Department for export of fertilizers during the last three years is given below:—

Year	Quantity (metric tonnes)
2008-09	36000
2009-10	38000

(c) and (d) During the year 2010-11 this Department received information about illegal export of fertilizers in the name of some other Chemicals. Customs Authorities have seized illegally diverted quantities of fertilizers and confiscated the same. Necessary legal proceedings under applicable laws are in progress. The Department of Fertilizers requested the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to instruct all the respective Customs Authorities in the matter so that fertilizers are not smuggled out of the Country in violation of prevailing Exim Policy and relevant regulations.

Availability of essential medicines at reasonable prices

517. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cost of medicines specially essential medicines have been increased manifold during last 2-3 years;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that essential medicines are not available to the poor at reasonable prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has dropped lot of essential medicines from price control list in last one decade; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to provide atleast essential medicines on reasonable prices to the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the Audit Reports submitted by IMS

Health, number of formulation packs marketed has been approximately 60,784 upto June, 2011. The details of percentage number of packs, whose prices have increased, decreased and remained stable on the monthly base-in percentage terms as per Retail Audit Reports of IMS Health for the last three financial years is detailed below:—

1. Percentage number of packs whose prices increased

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	0.07	0.12	0.30	0.05	0.11	15.89	1.73	2.44	0.10	0.07	0.02	8.74
2009-10	1.99	0.62	4.75	0.01	0.07	3.21	0.14	0.003	2.92	0.03	0.02	2.66
2010-11	0.09	0.02	1.98	0.22	0.09	2.28	0.08	0.03	2.46	0.30	0.01	1.89
2011-12	0.07	0.02	1.49									

2. Percentage number of packs whose prices decreased:

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.02	0.09	10.85	1.32	2.41	0.29	0.02	0.03	6.67
2009-10	1.32	0.48	5.15	0.02	0.02	2.96	0.02	0.01	1.31	0.02	0.03	0.87
2010-11	0.06	0.01	1.45	0.14	0.03	1.15	0.01	0.02	0.88	0.15	0.01	0.62
2011-12	0.01	0.04	0.89									

3. Percentage number of packs whose prices remained stable:

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	99.93	99.85	99.62	99.92	99.80	73.26	96.95	95.15	99.61	99.91	99.95	84.59
2009-10	96.69	98.90	90.10	99.96	99.92	93.83	99.84	99.99	95.76	99.95	99.96	96.47
2010-11	99.85	99.97	96.57	99.65	99.88	96.57	99.91	99.95	96.66	99.55	99.98	97.49
2011-12	99.92	99.94	97.62									

Source: IMS-Health

As can be seen from the details above, prices of only small number of packs have increased during the last three years while the prices of most of the packs have remained stable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Department of Pharmaceuticals has launched 'Jan Aushadhi Campaign' with the objective of making available medicines at affordable prices for all. Under this campaign less

priced quality unbranded generic medicines are made available through Jan Aushadhi Stores. Till date 113 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in different States/UTs. in the country.

Further, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared a draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP-2011) based on the criteria of essentiality and requirements as stipulated by the Ministry of Health and family Welfare. The draft NPPP-2011 has been circulated among the concerned Ministries/Stakeholders. The draft policy envisages bringing the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)-2011 and associated medicines under price control.

New Investment Policy for urea

518. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that amendments to the Urea Investment Policy of 2008 are likely to be delayed further, as the Ministry has formally opposed the move to raise urea prices;

(b) whether a panel headed by the Planning Commission had also recently suggested freeing the retail price of urea;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when new investment policy for urea would come into force; and

(e) the likely benefits, farmers would get due to new investment policy for urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a), (d) and (e) A proposal to amend the policy for New Investment in Urea sector notified by the Department of Fertilizers is under consideration of a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission. Once the report is submitted the same will be placed before Group of Ministers for consideration. It is expected that the policy would facilitate new investments in the Urea sector resulting in lesser import dependence.

(b) and (c) The Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission has submitted the report on pricing policy of Urea beyond New Pricing Policy (NPS)-III. The report has, *inter alia* recommended freeing of the retail price of urea 'within reasonable limits'. The Group of Ministers, considered the report in its meeting held on 5th August, 2011 and directed to place the report before CCEA. GoM further directed that while placing the above proposal before CCEA, the observations of Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be clearly spelt out and directions of the CCEA sought. The proposal is under consideration of Government.