

- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the time-bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) and (b) The two public sector companies namely, Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) and Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), though BIFR referred sick companies are not closed, and are manufacturing life saving drugs.

- (c) and (d) does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government approved the Rehabilitation Scheme of HAL on 9 March 2006 which *inter-alia* involves Cash Infusion of Rs. 137.59 crore and waiver of past loans and interests thereupon to the extent of Rs. 259.43 crore (as on 31.3.2005). The entire cash infusion of Rs. 137.59 crore has been released to the company. Parliament has approved write off of loans and waiver of interest to the extent of Rs. 259.43 crore Revival of IDPL is under active consideration of the Department.

#### **Need of additional facilities to boost fertilizer industries**

3144. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

SHRI D. RAJA :

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that with growing agricultural activities in the country, the demand for fertilizers is reaching new high;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the existing fertilizers facilities in the country need an urgent boost up through new additional facilities;

(d) if so, whether Government is actively considering to expand the fertilizer industry in such a manner to enable it to export after satisfying the domestic needs;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and

- (f) if not, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The demand (requirement) of major fertilizers like Urea, Di-ammonium Phosphate, Muriate of Potash (MOP) and Complex fertilizers during last three years and current year *i.e.* 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 (estimated) is given in the table below:-

(Figures in lakh MT)

Product	Requirement of Urea, DAP, MOP & Complex fertilizers			
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Urea	281.89	290.79	305.16	320.82
DAP	106.98	120.92	126.16	132.40
MOP	43.85	47.80	48.27	46.97
Complex	87.73	92.00	107.36	112.53
TOTAL	520.45	551.51	586.95	612.72

As can be seen, the demand of fertilizers in the country is on the rise.

(c) to (f) Government is always encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new policy on 4th September, 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor & ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion, revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The revision in this policy is under consideration. The country is almost fully dependent on imports to meet the requirements of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Government has taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price to the indigenous manufacturers. Government has also reduced the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to acquire this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizers inputs to P&K sector.

#### **Steroid eye drops**

3145. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of pharmaceutical companies are manufacturing steroid eye drops which can lead to blindness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government exercise any check on the pharmaceutical companies manufacturing steroid eye drops about percentage of steroid therein;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government proposes to take to ensure manufacture of steroid eye drops according to the specifications to avoid blindness?