

(a) the criteria prescribed by Government for opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendra in the country;

(b) whether expensive medicines, including drugs for cancer, are proposed to be sold through these retail outlets;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has envisaged any annual target for opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendras; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Jan Aushadhi Stores are opened in the Government Hospitals to make available quality unbranded generic medicines at affordable prices to all, by way of supply of medicines through Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). As Jan Aushadhi campaign, it was intended to open, to begin with, at least one Jan Aushadhi Store in each District, wherever the State Government extend their support and cooperation in allotting the space for opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores and also identifying the agency amongst NGOs, charitable/cooperative/Hospitals and Government bodies to manage such stores.

(b) and (c) The aim of the Jan Aushadhi campaign is to make available quality medicines at affordable prices for all, especially the poor and the disadvantaged. Under this campaign unbranded generic medicines are being made available through Jan Aushadhi outlets/stores which inherently are less priced but certainly are of the same and equivalent quality, efficacy and safety as compared to branded medicines.

(d) and (e) In terms of the Jan Aushadhi campaign initiated, at least one Jan Aushadhi Store in each District is intended to be opened, wherever the State Governments taking into account their prevailing Health Policy extend their support and cooperation in allotting the space in the Government Hospitals or other suitable locations and also identifying the agency amongst NGOs, charitable/cooperative/Hospitals and Government bodies to manage such stores. Since opening up of the Jan Aushadhi Stores depends upon the support and the cooperation provided by the State Governments, no specific targets and timelines can be fixed.

**Balanced use of fertilizers**

†3913.SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to ensure balanced use of fertilizers, keeping in view less agricultural yield in the context of food security;
- (b) whether instructions have been issued to print per hectare fertilizers use and name of the crop on bags; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) In order to promote balanced use of fertilizers, Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers has been implemented *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010. Under the NBS Policy, a fixed amount of subsidy is provided on P&K fertilizers depending upon its nutrient content. Subsidy is also provided on micro-nutrients in order to promote balanced fertilization. In addition to above, the Government is also promoting soil testing for balanced and judicious use of fertilizer for improving soil health and its productivity. Government also encourages the use of organic fertilizers for maintenance of soil health and its productivity.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

**Import of urea**

†3914.SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been the policy of Government that Urea has to be imported through the State owned PSUs Mineral and Mines Trading Corporation (MMTC) and State Trading Corporation (STC);
- (b) whether Government has granted license of direct purchase of urea to a South Indian company Coromandel by bending rules for benefitting the company which resulted into a profit of around four thousand crore rupees to the company, and a loss of similar amount to the exchequer;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.