

Department of Fertilizers (DOF) has advised Government of Bihar for creating State institutional agencies like Markfed, so that fertilizer can be procured in advance as is being done by States like Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka etc. This will facilitate better and timely availability of fertilizers in Bihar.

Report of BoG on lapses of NIPER, Mohali

2523. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1912 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th March, 2012 and state:

- (a) whether Government has received the report from the Board of Governors (BoG);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in each case;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to make the BoG responsible as per National Institute of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research (NIPER) Act, 1993;
- (d) whether Government has made Mid Term Financial and Accountability review on each planned and non-planned funds released under Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The report is awaited from BoG.

(d) to (f) Planning Commission has since been requested to commission a comprehensive evaluation of performance of National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) by an expert organization.

Excess funding to NIPER, Mohali

2524. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Questions 1911 and 1912 answered on 30th March, 2012 in Rajya Sabha and state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of a news article captioned "Can't spend but still no end to fund flow" published in a prominent daily on 13th March, 2012;
- (b) if so, how does Government deny the allegations of excess funding by endorsing funding of Rs 1375 crore without examination/justification and responsibility of the Board of Governors/Ministry to the Planning Commission; and

- (c) the steps taken to fix responsibility and accountability in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Article in Mail Today dated 13.3.2012 contained a number of issues apart from release of funds to National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali. Funds are released each year to NIPER, Mohali, in accordance with the requirement projected and availability of funds. Government has already given an Assurance to the Rajya Sabha, in response to Unstarred Question No.1900 answered on 09.12.2011, *inter alia*, that information with regard to observations/objections of CAG during the last three years was being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House. The factual position in respect of issues raised in the Article in Mail Today dated 13.3.2012 is being ascertained from NIPER, Mohali and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The report of the Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry for the 12th Five Year Plan essentially contained vision of the Department about the proposals it proposes to undertake in the Twelfth Plan. Each proposal is subject to detailed examination separately by the Planning Commission and other authorities in the Government of India. Funds are released only when the Government of India finally approves each Scheme. As such, mere inclusion in the report of the working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry for the Twelfth Plan of proposals concerning NIPER, Mohali would not entitle NIPER, Mohali to funds to the extent of Rs. 1375/- crore in the Twelfth Plan.

Selling price *vis-a-vis* production cost of drugs

2525. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government know that chemists in India spend between 20 per cent to 40 per cent of their operating expenses on hiring and maintenance of their premises and are also earning about 25 per cent profits;

(b) if so, the manufacturers, after investments, must also be making substantial profits, thus raw materials of drug/formulation costing just a pittance; and

(c) whether Government will make a thorough study of various costing components of drug industry from manufacture to retail sellers, with a view to curtail the prices of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No such data is centrally maintained. However, Para 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) provides the following:

“A manufacturer, distributor or wholesaler shall sell a formulation to a