

Expansion of pharmaceutical industry

†*394. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to Government's decision to implement the scheme for providing free medicines to all, the expansion of pharmaceutical industry would be required;

(b) if so, the assessment made by Government in this regard; and

(c) the assessment made regarding industrial production capacity to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No such assessment has been made.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

Opening of Community Colleges

*395. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by the Ministry to open Community Colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how reservation would be implemented in these Colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Government of India has decided to start 200 community colleges, on pilot basis, from existing colleges/polytechnics identified by the State/UT Governments, preferably near industrial clusters, from the academic session 2013. These colleges will aim at improving the employable skills of the learners; providing flexibility to exit and re-enter the programmes by way of credit-based modular courses and banking of credits and providing opportunities for horizontal and vertical mobility and community-based lifelong learning. Scheme stipulates association of industry, including business and the service sectors, at all levels *viz.*, development of curriculum, training of trainers/teachers, supply of adjunct faculty and "*hands on*" practical training and evaluation so as to ensure better employment prospects for the learners. The responsibility to operationalize these community colleges is with the States/UTs with support from the Government of India.

(c) The concerned State/UT policy on reservation will apply to the Community Colleges established by State Governments/UT Administration.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.