

(c) the details of Board resolutions regarding selection of regular Director of NIPER; and

(d) the details of complaints received by the Central Vigilance officer of the Ministry and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The issue relating to selection of regular Director was discussed at the meetings of Board of Governors (BoG) of NIPER, Mohali, on 2nd August 2011 & 9th January 2012. BoG at its meeting held on 9.1.2012, approved advertisement for publication in newspapers. BoG also authorised Chairman BoG to constitute the search cum selection committee for selection of Director.

(d) The complaints are received by the Chief Vigilance Officer, Department of Pharmaceuticals either through Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) or through other Government Departments and various other sources. These complaints are examined as per CVC's guidelines and in consultation with CVC and as per advice of CVC, further action will be taken.

Price fixation of imported drugs

1590. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's drug regulator has initiated a process to end the 16 year freedom enjoyed by foreign drug makers to fix the retail price of their imported medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has written to the Department of Pharmaceuticals to amend the Drugs (Price Control) Order of 1995 and the amendment will allow NPPA to enquire how retail prices of imported drugs are fixed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the

Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) the prices of 74 bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations including imported scheduled formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995.

(c) and (d) NPPA has requested the Department of Pharmaceuticals for amendment in form IV of DPCO, 1995 which will enable them to seek additional information from the importers of drugs than what is prescribed under DPCO, 1995.

Supply of chemical fertilizers to North-Eastern States

1591. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether required quantity of chemical fertilizers is not being supplied to North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the total requirement of chemical fertilizers for North-Eastern States; and

(c) the steps taken by government to fulfil the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP & NPK during the year 2012-13 (April to November, 2012) for North Eastern States are given in Statement (See below). It can be seen from the annexure that the availability in most of the cases is lower than the requirement; this is so because of non-availability of adequate warehousing facility in the North Eastern States because of which they are unable to procure and store fertilizers in advance. The fertilizer in the North Eastern States is procured only at the time of its application and bare minimum fertilizer is procured which can be immediately consumed.

(c) The regular weekly Video conference is being conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways and Department of Shipping with State Agriculture Officials of all the State including North Eastern States and corrective actions taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicted by them.