

RDPL, KAPL and HAL are manufacturing and supplying generic medicines for sale at the Jan Aushadhi Stores. Wherever Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened, the concerned State Governments are issuing instructions/guidelines to their Doctors in the Government Hospitals to prescribe generic medicines. Similar instructions are also reported to have been issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to the Doctors to prescribe medicines in generic names.

Settlement of backlog levies of fertilizer units

195. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:
SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

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

(a) whether the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Finance is considering other alternative options to resolve settlement of backlog issue of additional State levies of fertilizer manufacturing units as the State Governments are not in a position to refund this additional levy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has received any communication during last six months in this regard, if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Ministry has communicated to Ministry of Finance to provide one time financial grant to resolve this matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) To resolve the issue of settlement of backlog arrears in respect of Non-recognized Input Taxes levied by State Government of Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, consultation process is going on with the stakeholders. Appropriate decision shall be taken by the Government, taking into account views of State Government and interests of farmers and fertilizers companies.

(c) the Department of Fertilizers has received communications from the public authorities in the matter and the Department of Fertilizers has sent an interim reply to them.

(d) and (e) The Department of Fertilizers has written to Ministry of Finance to review their comments *i.e.* "The proposed mechanism to levy additional MRP cannot apply with retrospective effect. In respect of prior period losses, no recovery should be made from the farmers buying the fertilizers post implementation of this proposal. The issue instead may be taken up with respective State Governments to recoup the losses of the manufacturers" and resolve the matter.

New pricing policy for urea sector

196. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

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

(a) the action taken by the Ministry on the fact that due to the existing Urea Pricing Policy, NPS-III, some of the fertilizer units are suffering from financial loss since long;

(b) the current status of the new pricing policy for urea sector and by when Central Government would amend new Urea Pricing Policy;

(c) whether Government intends to announce new pricing policy for four fertilizer producers of urea sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) A new pricing policy for existing urea units beyond Stage-III of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) is under consideration of the Government of India and is expected to be finalised shortly.

Pricing system of essential drugs

197. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to change the pricing system of essential drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court has ordered the Centre not to alter the present pricing structure of essential drugs;