

(d) Contribution towards pension is required in respect of employees recruited on or after 1.1.2004 under the New Pension Scheme.

Control on the price of life saving drugs

†4072. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those generic medicines for cancer which are equivalent to the country made 'Nexavar' along with the prices thereof;

(b) whether Government is under pressure for keeping the prices of Indian cancer medicines at par with those medicines made by American manufacturers;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to control the prices of such life saving drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As per IMS Health data available with National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), the details of Nexavar or its equivalents are not available. Anti-cancer medicines are non-scheduled drugs. Under the present framework of price fixation under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) there is no control on the launch price of non-scheduled medicines.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Government has notified new National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) on 7th December, 2012. NPPP-2012 provides for price fixation of cancer drugs of the prescribed strengths and dosage forms as specified in the National List of Essential Medicines. As envisaged in the NPPP-2012, prices of these specified anti-cancer drugs would be fixed after promulgation of the new DPCO by the Government.

Reduction of subsidy on fertilizers

4073. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to reduce and waive subsidy being given on some of the fertilizers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010, under which a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidized P&K fertilizers depending upon its nutrient contents. The Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of P&K fertilizers are fixed by fertilizer companies at reasonable level. The subsidy on the subsidised P&K fertilizers are fixed after taking into consideration all relevant factors including international and domestic prices of these fertilizers, exchange rate, inventory level etc. The fact of the international prices of P&K fertilizers having come down in the last quarter of 2012-13 will also be one of the factors for determining the subsidy rates on these fertilizers for 2013-14.

However, Urea is at present provided to farmers at a statutory price of Rs. 5360 per MT.

IT graduates and professionals

4074. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether IT companies in the country are not able to get enough and adequate support for existing projects and are unable to get new projects from foreign countries to provide jobs for the large number of IT professionals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of Indian IT graduates and professionals in the domestic and international market and their per capita income both in India and various countries where they are working respectively; and

(c) the measures taken by NASSCOM and other professional bodies to augment the IT business both domestically and internationally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The Indian IT-ITES industry has been progressively growing and is able to secure new projects from various foreign countries. According to NASSCOM, the export revenue in respect of Indian IT-ITES industry is estimated at USD 75.8 billion in FY 2012-13 as against USD 68.8 billion in FY 2011-12, registering an increase of 10.2 per cent during the said period. Further, the professionals employed by the Indian IT-ITES