

Revival of closed pharmaceutical companies

2840. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pharmaceutical companies closed during last five years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether closure of these companies has badly affected the supply of cheaper drugs in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reactions of Government thereto; and
- (d) the action taken by Government for revival of these closed pharmaceutical companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No such information is maintained by the Department.

- (b) to (d) In view of reply to part (a) above, do not arise.

Delay in appointing regular Director in NIPER, Mohali

2841. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for delay in appointing a regular Director in the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali despite the fact that Board of Governors (BoG) were constituted in June, 2011;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Punjab and Haryana High Court judgment in November, 2012 had struck down the selection and appointment of the Registrar of NIPER which was one of the points raised in the special requisition meeting of BoG called in July, 2012; and
- (c) if so, the reasons and justification for not holding BoG meeting after July, 2012 on such administrative and financial lapses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Recommendations of the Board of Governors (BoG), National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali in regard to selection of a regular Director are awaited.

(b) NIPER, Mohali has reported that the operation of the order of Hon'ble single Judge in Civil Writ Petition No. 6458 of 2012 has been stayed by a Double Bench headed by Chief Justice of Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in Later Patents Appeals No. 2094 of 2012 and 2106 of 2012. The matter is *sub-judice*.

(c) NIPER, Mohali has reported that requisite meetings of the BoG were held in 2012 as per the provisions of the NIPER Act, 1998 and the Statutes of the NIPER.

Results of fertilizers subsidy

2842. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy given to fertilizer industry in the country in the last few years have not yielded any results in terms of increased production and the country continues to be dependent on imports;

(b) if so, whether consignments valued several crore of rupee were dispatched by industries and subsidy paid to them, but fertilizer not received at the State level;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to ensure availability of fertilizer to farmers at a reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The subsidy is given to fertilizer industry to compensate the cost of production of urea which is more than the MRP fixed by the Governments. The MRP of urea is fixed by the Government and urea is supplied to farmers at subsidized rate. As regards phosphatic and potassic fertilizers (P&K) fertilizers is concerned, Nutrient Based Subsidy(NBS) is being implemented *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 their nutrient content. Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of P&K fertilizers are fixed by the fertilizer companies. As no investment has been made by the fertilizer industry during the last few years except few urea revamp projects, the urea production has increased in the country by around 2 Million MT. The country is fully dependent on imports in Potassic sector due to non availability of potash in the country and to the extent of 90% in Phosphatic sector in the form of either finished products or its