

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken action to ensure provision of cheap drugs for cancer and other serious ailments by indigenous and multi national drug companies in view of the verdict of the apex court;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The judgment of the Supreme Court in the case of M/s. Novartis AG vs Union of India deliberates upon the patentability of the invention claimed by M/s. Novartis in its application filed in the patent office, Chennai on 17th July, 1998. The Supreme Court has decided that the said invention fails in the test of invention and patentability as provided under Sections 2(1)(j), 2(1)(ja) and 3(d) of the Patents Act, 1970. Accordingly, the SLP filed by M/s. Novartis was dismissed. The said judgment does not contain any orders in respect of manufacturing of generic version of cancer drug Glivec.

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

Negative growth of fertilizer production

3453. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that fertilizer production registered a negative growth of 4.0 per cent in February, 2013 against its growth at 4.1 per cent in February 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether Government is proposing any corrective measures to reverse this trend; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Production of urea during February

2013 has been 18.45 Lakh MT *vis-a-vis* production of 18.25 Lakh MT during February 2012. However, production of P and K fertilizers during February 2013 has been lower at 6.59 Lakh MT *vis-a-vis* production of 8.42 Lakh MT during February 2012. This is mainly due to huge quantities of unsold stocks of P and K fertilizers in the field, temporary shutdown of some plants for maintenance and limitations on account of availability of raw materials. Since this is temporary phenomena, no corrective measures are contemplated.

Guidelines for drug manufacturers

3454. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced its new Drugs Pricing Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has issued guidelines for drug manufacturers with regard to quitting from manufacturing of drugs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals has notified the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy-2012 on 07.12.2012. The salient features of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) are as under:

- The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of essentiality of drugs as specified under National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)-2011.
 - The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of regulating the prices of formulations only.
 - The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of fixing the ceiling price of formulations through Market Based Pricing (MBP).
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) In view of reply to (c) above, does not arise.