

### Promotion of low-cost generic drugs

1587. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any measures to promote sale of low-cost generic drugs across the country; and

(b) the policy made by the Ministry to benefit directly the people of the backward States of North-East and Assam in particular, and the details thereof?
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) For making available low-cost quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all, the Government launched Jan Aushadhi Campaign in November, 2008 by way of opening up of Jan Aushadhi Drug Stores. Since November, 2008, 157 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in various parts of the country, out of which 93 are functional. A New Business Plan has been designed particularly to address the shortcomings and challenges identified in scaling up the activities. Under the new Plan, the process of identification of operating agencies has now been simplified and entities other than those identified by the State Governments are also proposed to be appointed as operating agencies for running the Jan Aushadhi Stores. As per the new Plan, societies/trusts/unemployed pharmacists/entrepreneurs etc. would be eligible for appointment as operating agencies. Stores would now be opened even outside the hospital premises. Basket of drugs has now been widened to 361 drugs covering all therapeutic categories.

(b) As per the new Business Plan, State identified agencies would continue to get initial grant of Rs. 2.50 lakhs. Whereas, others would get sales linked incentives i.e. 10% of the monthly sales subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10,000/-. With a view to promote generic medicines for North-Eastern and difficult areas, this assistance would be 15% of monthly sales subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15,000/-.

**PE against judicial member of ITAT, Kolkata**

1588. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to prevalent convention investigations into allegations levelled against any Judge should be treated as confidential and discrete so that the image of judiciary is not tarnished;

(b) if so, the reasons that CBI is publicizing the vague and motivated charges of Judicial Member of Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), Kolkata by seeking permission to register Preliminary Enquiry (PE); and