

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) One of the main objectives of the Government of India, Department of Pharmaceuticals, is to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices for all in the country. Keeping this objective in view, one of the recent measures taken by the Department of Pharmaceuticals was to launch “Jan Aushadhi Campaign”, under which Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug Stores are being opened in the Government Hospitals to make available (unbranded) quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all by way of supply of medicines through Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). In order to enable a focused and empowered structure to implement the Jan Aushadhi campaign, a Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) was formed under the aegis of the Department of Pharmaceuticals. BPPI *inter-alia* is required to coordinate with all the stake-holders including the Health and Family Welfare Departments of the State Governments in connection with the opening of Jan Aushadhi stores in their States and also to ensure supply of generic medicines to all such stores through the CPSUs. So far as the process of opening of Jan Aushadhi stores is concerned, much will depend upon the support and cooperation being extended by the State Governments in allotting free space in the Government Hospitals or at any other suitable locations and also identify the agencies amongst Hospitals/NGOs/Charity institutions/Co-operatives/Government Bodies to manage such stores. Moreover, to take this campaign forward in order to cover each district in the country, much will depend upon the health policies and the health programmes being followed by the respective State Governments, in order to determine the feasibility and the viability for opening/managing such Jan Aushadhi Stores. In this regard, BPPI has been regularly writing to all the State Governments, where the Jan Aushadhi campaign is yet to make inroads and based on the positive responses being received by the BPPI, necessary steps are being taken to open stores in such States.

(c) Does not arise.

Availability of cancer drugs at reduced price

498. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign companies which are manufacturing drugs for treatment of cancer, have agreed to reduce the prices of their products;

(b) if so, the existing prices of drugs like Herceptin and Mabthera and the proposed revised prices;

(c) whether these drugs are now available in the country at reduced prices; and

(d) if not, the likely prices of these drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Anti-Cancer drugs are non-scheduled formulations. In respect of drugs — not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers are at liberty to fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of Government/NPPA. Such prices are normally fixed depending on various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities/packing material, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc.

As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of IMS Health and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum (20% before 01.04.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

As per the IMS-Health data available with National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), MAT value (Moving Annual Turnover) of Mabthera (molecule name Rituximab) of Dr. Reddy's product is Rs. 5.49 crores and PTR (Price to Retailer) for 500mg (50ml pack) is Rs. 30,766.15 and for 100mg (10ml pack) is Rs. 7691.54. However, there is no information of prices of Herceptin (molecule name Trastuzumab) in the IMS-Health data.

One of the foreign companies manufacturing drugs for treatment of cancer namely M/s Roche had informed that they have entered into an agreement with Indian manufacturing company M/s Emcure Pharmaceuticals Limited to produce its innovative biologics in India. The technology transfer project, through Roche's Global Technical Operations function, will allow for the local manufacture of Roche's medicines such as Trastuzumab and Rituximab.

They had further informed that currently, the products are imported and distributed by Taksal Pharma Pvt. Ltd. (Distributors of Roche). The Distributor's existing and proposed prices of the products are as under:—

(Price in Rupees)

Product Name	Current prices		Proposed new prices	
	MRP (Inclusive of VAT) Rs.	Price to Patient (Excluding VAT)	MRP (Inclusive of VAT) Rs.	Price to Patient (Excluding VAT)
1. Trastuzumab-440mg	1,10,700	85,715	75,000	50,000
2. Rituximab-500mg	80,000	60,000	37,500	25,000
3. Rituximab-100mg	16,000	12,000	7,500	5,000

(The injection Rituximab is also available as Biosimilar from Dr. Reddy's Labs).

Less production of Urea by MFL, Chennai

499. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL), Chennai produced only around 54 per cent Urea of its installed capacity during 2009-10 and 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to improve the production capacity of the MFL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. Madras Fertilizers Limited has produced 90% and 98% of the installed capacity during 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively.

(b) and (c) In view of above question does not arise.

Hardship faced by fertilizer industry

500. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer industry in the country is facing hardships due to non-availability of funds;