

the extant FDI policy in the pharmaceutical sector allows 100% FDI on the automatic route for greenfield investment, 100% FDI is allowed for brownfield investment on the Government route. With a view to protecting the domestic pharmaceutical sector including the production of generics, the Government has decided that 'non-compete' clause would not be allowed except in special circumstances with the approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. There is no proposal under consideration to revise the policy.

**Procurement and distribution under National Food
Security Act, 2013**

*412. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that procurement and distribution under the newly enacted National Food Security Act, 2013 would not be substantially higher than the ongoing Public Distribution System (PDS); and

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The annual requirement of foodgrains for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is estimated at 549.3 lakh tonnes, compared to annual allocation of 499.42 lakh tonnes under existing TPDS (excluding additional *ad-hoc* allocations) during 2012-13.

The existing procurement policy of the Government, as per which all the foodgrains conforming to prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are purchased by the public procurement agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP) will continue, to meet the requirement of foodgrains under NFSA.

Remunerative price for agricultural produce

*413. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report of a Panel appointed by the Planning Commission, farmers are not getting competitive and remunerative price for their produce inspite of increasing demand of foodgrains, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether as per report of the Panel, 40 per cent price of farmers' produce increases immediately after reaching the markets, if so, the reasons therefor and response of Government thereto; and

(c) the details of action taken by Government in this regard to make agriculture profitable in response to aforesaid report?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Planning Commission had set up a Committee for “Encouraging Investments in Supply Chains including Provision for Cold Storages for more Efficient Distribution of Farm Produce” under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission, which submitted its report in May, 2012. The Committee has stated that the benefits of demand expansion and higher production may not have adequately passed on to farmers and consumers on account of deficiencies in supply chain logistics from farm gate to final consumer. In case of fruits and vegetables, the prices at first point of sale in large mandies, as a proportion to final retail price may be in the range of 25-40 per cent.

Government is promoting alternative marketing channels and investment in post-harvest infrastructure including cold chain, value addition and preservation. Government is also implementing schemes for technology upgradation, modernization of food processing industries and strengthening of agriculture market infrastructure. States/Union Territories have been advised to amend their respective State Agriculture Produce Marketing Acts on the lines of Model Act, 2003, which provides for direct marketing, contract farming and setting up of markets in private/cooperative sector.

Pending court cases

†*414. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the number of cases pending in the courts and the number of persons affected by this in the country;

(b) whether Government is going to put in place any system to dispose off these cases expeditiously; and

(c) the number of cases, out of these pending cases in Madhya Pradesh, and details of the pending cases, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Details of number of cases pending in Subordinate Courts in various States including Madhya Pradesh as on 31.12.2012 are given in Statement (*See* below). Data on number of persons affected by pendency of cases in Courts is not being maintained.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.