

Development of drip irrigation in Jharkhand

406. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan for development of drip irrigation in Jharkhand if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the present status of drip irrigation in the State; and
- (c) the quantum of funds allocated for the purpose in the present financial year for Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Sir, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation was launched in January, 2006 in all the States, including Jharkhand. This was up-scaled as National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June, 2010. From 1st April, 2014, NMMI has been subsumed under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and is now implemented as “On Farm Water Management” (OFWM). Under this component, assistance is provided for the installation of Micro Irrigation systems, namely, drip and sprinkler irrigation system.

- (b) An area of 20277 ha has been covered under Micro Irrigation in Jharkhand.
- (c) In the current financial year, Rs.30 crores has been allocated under OFWM component to the State.

Campaign against Indian generic drugs

407. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is recurring campaign against Indian generic drugs in many parts of the world;
- (b) whether it is proposed to initiate global campaign to counter this campaign, and to highlight the quality of generic drugs made in India, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is proposed to seek help of certain companies to make our campaign a success; and
- (d) if so, the details and status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHALCHAND): (a) Government of India has been receiving reports on the quality of drugs exported from India from various countries like USA, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Ghana etc.

(b) to (d) To counter such baseless allegations in an effective way, the Government interacts on continuous basis with Pharma industry for an effective campaign on such adverse reports on the quality of drugs exported from India, with the objective to propagate that India is a trusted source for quality and affordable generic drugs and also to create confidence in the international markets that India has strong regulatory mechanism to supervise manufacture and export of quality medicines. The Brand India Pharma campaign launched in CPhI Japan in 2012 is being continued in various major international Pharma event.

Switching over to gas-based from naphtha-based urea production

408. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to switch over to gas from naphtha-based urea production by fertilizer companies;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such a switch over; and
- (c) the details of the quantum of urea produced by naphtha-based fertilizer plants and gas-based fertilizer plants since the switch over policy initiated by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHALCHAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Stage I & II of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) emphasized the usage of most efficient feedstock *i.e.* gas and conversion of non-gas based units to gas. Under NPS-III, all Naphtha and FO/LSHS based plants were directed to convert to Natural Gas (NG)/ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) since the cost of production of urea using Naphtha is much higher than that by natural gas. The conversion of non-gas based Urea Plants to Natural Gas (NG)/ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) resulted in saving of subsidy of this Government.

- (c) The detail of the quantum of urea produced by naphtha-based urea units and gas-based urea units is given in Statement.