

- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) to (c) All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2011 (NLEM, 2011) have been included in Schedule 1 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) which contains 348 drugs covering 680 formulations. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), an independent body of experts under this Department, has been delegated the power under DPCO, 2013 to fix the ceiling price or retail price of any drug. NPPA has also fixed the prices of antidiabetic and cardiovascular medicines in respect of 108 non-scheduled formulations on 10.7.2014.

Gas based fertilizer units

1880. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to convert all naphtha based urea manufacturing fertilizer units into gas based urea manufacturing fertilizer units;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken all necessary steps to ensure that adequate gas is supplied to all Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which are manufacturing urea; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the prevailing gas utilization policy of the Government, gas based urea plants are at first priority in the matter of allocation of gas. During the year 2013-14, 42.95 mnscmd of gas (domestic + RLNG) was supplied to Fertilizer sector.

EGoM in its meeting held on 23rd August, 2013 has decided that supplies to domestic gas to Fertilizer Sector be maintained at a level of 31.5 mnscmd.

Moreover, to ensure the supply of domestic gas to CPSUs, Department of Fertilizers takes up the matter with MoP&NG on regular basis.