

Revival of sick drugs manufacturing companies

*185. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State-owned drugs manufacturing companies are running under losses;
- (b) if so, the number of such companies in the country;
- (c) whether Government proposes to revive them, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (d) Out of five Pharma CPSEs under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, three companies viz. Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) are sick units under Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and are running under losses for several years. Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL) has for the first time registered losses in 2013-14. The Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL) is running profitably. The revival status of the three sick and BIFR referred pharmaceuticals CPSEs is given as under:-

Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune

Government approved the Rehabilitation Scheme of HAL on 9th March, 2006 which *inter alia* involves Cash Infusion of ₹ 137.59 crore and waiver of past loans and interests thereupon to the extent of ₹ 259.43 crore (as on 31.3.2005). However, due to various reasons, the first Rehabilitation Plan of HAL was not successful. As the HAL is still incurring losses, a 2nd Rehabilitation Plan of HAL is under consideration of this Department. Accordingly a Draft Revival Scheme (MDRS) was made in February, 2014 which was filed by IDBI (the operating agency - appointed by BIFR) before the BIFR on 18-2-2014. However, BIFR on 7.07.14 rejected the DRS pointing out certain deficiencies. The draft modified proposal for the 2nd Rehabilitation is being prepared by the IDBI in consultation with HAL, as per direction of BIFR.

Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata

Government approved Rehabilitation Scheme for revival of BCPL on 21.12.2006. The rehabilitation scheme, *inter alia*, involved the following:

- (i) Cash infusion of ₹ 207.19 crore (Out of ₹ 207.19 crore, ₹ 145.00 crore was meant for upgradation and modernization of manufacturing facilities conforming to WHO-GMP standards)
- (ii) Write off of loans and waiver of interest thereon of ₹ 233.41 crores by Government of India,

Government has approved writing off of GOI loans and interest of ₹ 233.41 crores, and an amount of ₹ 207.19 crore approved by the Government has been released. BCPL is implementing the Rehabilitation Scheme.

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL)

A Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) was considered by Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) at its meeting held on 9.3.2007 and recommended for approval. The scheme was placed before the Cabinet for approval. Cabinet considered the proposal at its meeting held on 17.5.2007 and referred it to Group of Ministers (GoM) for consideration at the first instance. The first meeting of the GoM was held on 11.10.2007. Based on the recommendation of GoM and Draft scheme prepared earlier, a Pre-feasibility Report was prepared by an expert agency, Ernst and Young. The revival scheme of the company is under the consideration of Government of India. Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has raised certain observations in March, 2014 on the DRS submitted by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency, appointed by BIFR. Necessary action is being taken to revise the DRS.

Digital India Programme

*186. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the Digital India Programme announced by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 2014;
- (b) whether Government has chalked out the modalities to implement the programme, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether a Committee has been set up or will be set up to monitor the programme, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Digital India is a programme