

**Revival of State-owned drug manufacturing companies**

1430. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to revive State-owned sick drug manufacturing companies viz. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL), Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. and Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. to cater to the unmet need for essential medicines like anti-retrovirals, cancer drugs, complex antibiotics and medicines used in treatment of tuberculosis etc.; and

(b) if so, the present position of these Central Public Sector Undertakings and the measures taken for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Presently revival of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is under consideration of Government of India. The Revival Package sanctioned for Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) is under implementation.

**Promoting generic medicines**

1431. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any guidelines for encouraging/motivating doctors to prescribe generic medicines to the maximum extent possible, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the extent to which the guidelines are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government has from time to time been issuing circulars/instructions to all Central Government hospitals, CGHS dispensaries and State Governments for encouraging/motivating doctors to prescribe generic medicines. Instructions have also been issued that all Central Government hospitals provide only good quality generic medicines, and that whenever any branded medicine is prescribed, it shall invariably mention that any other equivalent generic medicines could also be provided. The Code of Medical Ethics under Indian Medical Council Regulations, 2002 provides that every physician should, as far as