

possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs. Directions have also been issued to all the State/UT Governments on 01.10.2012 to grant/renew licenses to manufacture for sale or for distribution of drugs in proper/generic names only.

Reports of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

1432. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) regularly monitors shortage and availability of drugs;
- (b) if so, the details of the monitoring reports for the last three years; and
- (c) the action taken on the findings of NPPA in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) NPPA monitors shortages and availability of drugs on the basis of monthly reports received from State Drugs Control Administration and also complaints, if any, received from other sources. On receipt of such reports, NPPA immediately takes up the matter with the concerned manufacturers and advises them to rush the stock in the affected area. Concerned State Drugs controllers are also requested in this regard to ensure smooth supply of drugs in their States. Reports on short supply of certain medicines such as Anti-snake venom, Rabies vaccine, Rabies Immunoglobulin, Albumin Injection and Anti-malarial combination of Sulfadoxine+Pyrimethamine Tablet were received by the NPPA. In this regard, all the manufacturers/importers/marketing companies of these drugs have been directed to submit production/availability data and also a compliance report of resolving the shortage of these drugs in the country immediately issuing a gazette notification dated 09.09.2014.

Monitoring of shortage and availability of drugs is carried out by the NPPA as an on-going process for ensuring smooth supply of the drugs in the country. NPPA does not compile and maintain yearly data on shortages of drugs.

Use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture

1433 SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state: