

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:

- (a) the total quantum of chemical fertilizers used annually in the country;
- (b) the indigenous fertilizers used for agricultural purposes; and
- (c) by when Government will come out of these chemicals fertilizers pressure, which are harmful to health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAMAHIR): (a) The sales *i.e.* total quantum of all chemical fertilizers(like Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) used for agricultural purposes in last three years is as follows:-

(Figures in LMT)

Product	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea	294.77	301.61	304.54
DAP	111.96	92.30	69.03
MOP	29.92	21.34	21.92
NPK	113.98	77.33	75.16

(b) The indigenous fertilizers produced and used in the country in last three years is as follows:-

(Figures in LMT)

Product	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea	219.84	225.75	227.15
DAP	39.63	36.47	36.11
NPK	77.70	61.80	69.13

(c) There is no scientific evidence of declining soil/crop productivity from judicious use of chemical fertilizers. However, indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over the years may result in nutrient deficiencies. There is also the possibility of contamination of ground water due to excessive use of nitrogenous fertilizers, particularly in light textured soils, that has consequence on human health if used for drinking purpose. Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to reduce the negative impact of chemical fertilizers.