

[1 December, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

**Revival of HFC units**

1288. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred

Question 1089, given in Rajya Sabha on the 5th March, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the decision for revival of HFC units *viz.*, Durgapur and Haldia in West Bengal, publicly declared by the Prime Minister's Special Emissary, is being reversed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) if not the exact status of revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A decision has already been taken by the Government to close/hive off the Haldia Fertilizer Project which could never be commissioned, while the revamp of the Namrup Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) has however, been approved at a cost of Rs. 350 crore. Comprehensive rehabilitation proposal based on unit-wise techno-economic viability for the remaining units of HFC including Durgapur Unit is to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and thereafter, for final sanction of BIFR.

**Ban on sole selling agents of drugs**

1289. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned appointment of sole selling agents for marketing bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) its impact on the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Company Affairs has issued Notification *vide* GSR 364(E) dated 27.4.2000 as amended by Notification No. GSR 749(E) dated 27.09.2000 in this regard. The reasons for issuing the notification have been mentioned therein.