

(b) if so, by when and where these stores will be opened, district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government through Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) accords its approval to all valid applications/expressions of interest received from State Governments, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Charitable Institutions, Self-Help Groups, Societies, Pharmacists, Registered Medical Practitioners, Individual Entrepreneurs for opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores in the country. There is no State-wise quota/target for opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores has been fixed. As on date, there are 12 Jan Aushadhi Stores are functional in Himachal Pradesh. More stores can be opened on application by the State Government or private applicants. At present, there are no pending applications from Himachal Pradesh.

Review of drugs pricing policy

1019. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of some medicines is around 4000 per cent higher than that fixed by some State Governments;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government is considering to review its drug pricing policy for essential medicines by ensuring to provide life-saving drugs at reasonable rates to the poor people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) In pursuance of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012), the Government has notified Drugs (Prices Control Order, 2013 (DPCO-2013). As per the provisions of DPCO, 2013, the ceiling price of all medicines fixed by NPPA appearing in various strength/ dosages form in National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011, are uniform throughout the country. Out of total 680 NLEM medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, NPPA has fixed the ceiling prices in respect of 530 medicines. The reduction in prices of these medicines effected under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 is as follows:

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of drugs
0<= 5%	80
5<= 10%	50
10<= 15%	57
15<=20%	43
20<=25%	65
25<= 30%	49
30<=35%	26
35<=40%	34
Above 40%	126
	530

(c) No, Sir.

Revival of fertilizer factories

†1020. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of fertilizer factories in public sector lying closed;
- (b) whether Government has constituted a committee to revive the fertilizer factories at Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni lying closed;
- (c) if so, by when these factories would start production and the amount of estimated expenditure on it;
- (d) the number of persons likely to get employment in them;
- (e) whether these factories would be supplied gas from Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline; and
- (f) if so, by when the work of extending Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline upto aforesaid factories would be completed?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.