(Telangana) and Korba (Chhattisgarh) are of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL). Three plants *viz.* Haldia (West Bengal), Durgapur (West Bengal) and Barauni (Bihar) are of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL). One plant namely Namrup-I (Assam) is of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL) and one plant namely Cochin (Urea) Plant, (Kerala) is of Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT).

(b) Ramagundam unit is likely to be commissioned by end of September 2018 and time lines for restarting other units have not been firmed up yet. At present, the estimated investment per Unit for setting up a Gas based plant is will be in the range of ₹ 5500-6000 crore. As per approved revival plan, plants at Ramagundam, Gorakhpur, Sindri, Barauni and Namrup will be gas based and the plant at Talcher will be coal based.

(c) Details of the expenditure incurred on the subsidy given on fertilizers in last three financial years and 2015-16 (Up to Feb 16) is mentioned in the following table:

(₹ in crores)

Particulars	Indigenous Urea	Imported Urea	Imported P&K Fertilizers	Indigenous P&K Fertilizers
2012-13	20000.00	20016.00	14576.10	16000.00
2013-14	26500.00	15353.30	13926.86	15500.00
2014-15	38200.01	16200.00	8667.30	12000.00
2015-16 (Upto Feb. 16)	38083.41	16138.91	9088.66	11412.70

Reasonable pricing of medicines

1641. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:
KUMARI SELJA:

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

(a) whether pharmaceutical companies charge exorbitant prices for their drugs and formulations without any control/check;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to monitor prices of drugs; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to ensure availability of life-saving drugs in sufficient quantity at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Ceiling prices of scheduled medicines as per the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 are fixed/

notified by the NPPA under provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013. As provided in the DPCO, 2013, no person is authorized to sell any such scheduled medicine/formulation to any consumer at a price exceeding the ceiling price (plus local taxes) fixed by the NPPA. As regards non-scheduled drugs, not covered under price control, manufacturers are not allowed to increase maximum retail price (MRP) beyond 10% of the price in the preceding 12 months. In case any manufacturer/ marketer is found violating the provisions of the said Order, action on recovery of amount as per Essential Commodities Act is taken by NPPA. Accordingly, NPPA has issued demand notices to pharmaceutical companies for recovery of overcharged amount alongwith interest thereon for violation under various provisions of DPCO, 1995 and DPCO, 2013 read with Section 7A of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the last financial year and the current year upto 29.02.2016 as under:—

Year	Demand Notice issued (₹ in crore)		
	DPCO, 1995	DPCO, 2013	Total
2014-15	536.27	54.07	590.34
2015-16 (Till 29.02.2016)	905.98	20.33	926.31

The year-wise list of these overcharging cases (updated upto 29.02.2016) has been uploaded on the website of NPPA *i.e. www.nppaindia.nic.in.* Since inception of NPPA, there are 1389 cases as on 29.02.2016 (1250 cases under DPCO 1995 and 139 cases under DPCO 2013) where demand notices have been issued by NPPA to Pharmaceutical companies. The status of these cases is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) NPPA regularly monitors the prices of scheduled and non-scheduled formulations under provisions of DPCO, 2013. Whenever complaints on shortage of medicines are received, NPPA requests the State Drug Controllers (SDCs) and the pharmaceutical companies to take appropriate steps that may be required, to ensure smooth supply of the medicines across the country, and in the affected areas.

Statement

Status of the Overcharging Cases

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Particulars	DPCO 1995	DPCO 2013	Cumulative (Aug, 97 to 29.02.2016)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	No. of cases	1250	139	1389

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Overcharged amount demanded including interest whenever updated	4861.52	74.4	4935.92
3.	Total amount realised	316.31	68.6	384.91
4.	Amount outstanding (2-3)	4545.21	5.80	4551.01
5.	Cases under Litigation including Cases referred to collector but contested by the companies in the court of law and in r/o Cipla Ltd. and its associate, where no coercive action can be initiated as per order of Supreme Court	3673.36	24.96	3698.32
6.	Cases referred to collector and amount still to be recovered	67.85	0.01	67.86
7.	Pending with BIFR/Official Liquidator	5.41	0	5.41
8.	Amount pending relating to the overcharging cases under process (4-(5+6+7)	798.59	-19.17	779.42

Further, the demand raised in 37 overcharging cases under DPCO, 2013 amounting to ₹ 145.11 crore against the petitioner companies have been treated as show cause notices in pursuance of order dated 24.11.2015 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in various writ petitions filed by them.

Price control mechanism for life saving drugs

1642. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) whether prices of life saving drugs/medicines have increased during recent months, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has set up or proposes to set up any high powered committee for review of price control mechanism of drugs along with their availability in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government till date to keep the prices of life saving drugs/medicines under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) “Life Saving drugs”