### Fixation of higher MRP for products

#### 4576. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

# DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several companies are fixing the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for their products higher with a view to attract the consumers by offering handsome discount thereon, particularly on medicines;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any role in fixing the MRP of the products and whether Government can take any action against the companies fixing higher MRP for their products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No specific information/ complaint has been received regarding the I companies fixing higher MRP. However, it is true that some companies are offering discounts on their products as per their policy.

(c) Competition in market place determines the sale price of a commodity, depending on demand, availability and quality. The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) to be printed on various products is determined by the manufacturing companies themselves.

# Preparation of list of eligible households for TPDS

4577. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any periodic omission of ineligible beneficiaries and identification of new eligible beneficiaries for the list of eligible households has been made as mandated by Section 3 of TPDS (Control) Order, 2015;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this exercise is being undertaken every year or is it up to the willingness of Government; and
  - (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Targeted Public Distribution Systemf [TPDS] [Control] Order, 2015 provides that the State/UT Governments shall make all endeavors to eliminate bogus or ineligible ration cards as a continuous exercise and shall organize annual special drive before the end of every financial year for the elimination of bogus or ineligible ration cards and inclusion of new eligible beneficiaries under NFSA as per criteria evolved by respective State/UT government. Information in this regard is sought from State/UT Governments from time to time. As on 15/11/17, approximately 2.75 crore Ration Cards have been deleted by State/UT Governments during year 2013 to 2017. At present, nearly 80.7 crore beneficiaries out of 81.3 crore covered under NFSA are getting benefits from Public Distribution System.

# **Export duty on sugar**

4578. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recommended to the Ministry of Finance to lower the existing export duty on sugar to zero per cent in the wake of bumper domestic production of sugar this year;