

Setting up of NIPER at Chennai

1657. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Government to open more National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs), besides the existing 7 NIPERs, preferably one of them in Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Sir, In addition to the existing seven National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs), it is proposed to open four new Institutes at Madurai (Tamil Nadu) and in the States of Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra. However, there is no proposal pending with the Government for establishment of NIPER in Chennai.

Import of Fertilizers

1658. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is importing fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the policy of Government for import of fertilizers;

(c) the quantum and value of fertilizers imported along with the names of importing companies and the countries from which these fertilizers were imported during each of the last three years and the current year, fertilizer-wise;

(d) the monitoring mechanism put in place to check quality of fertilizers being imported by the said companies; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to make the country self-sufficient in production of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and its import for direct agriculture use is permitted through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) namely MMTC Limited (MMTC), State Trading Corporation Limited (STC) and Indian Potash Limited (IPL), under the Foreign Trade Policy of the Government. M/s Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers