

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Several alternate genes have been shown to improve the stress tolerance in crop plants. Such genes include those encoding for enzymes for modifying membrane lipids, LEA proteins, detoxification enzyme and stress inducible transcription factors. Two DNA clones that encode DRE binding (dehydration responsive element binding) proteins, DREB 1A and DREB 2A have been isolated from Arabidopsis. However the research work with these genes is only at experimental stage.

(d) Efforts are underway to clone and characterize drought related genes namely DREB 1A and DREB 2A for its transfer to other plants.

Revamping of BVFCL

1366. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complete revamping of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) of Namrup has been achieved;

(b) whether the grievances of workers and employees of BVFCL have been removed;

(c) if so, how it is done, and

(d) if not, the difficulties being faced in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) The revamp of Namrup units is expected to be completed in February, 2004.

(b) to (d) The main grievance of workers and employees of BVFCL is about revision of their wages, which has not been effected so far.

CBI probe against Johnson & Johnson

1367. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Johnson & Johnson had been

[1 August, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

marketing their products through Small Scale Sectors violating the Drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a CBI probe was ordered into the affairs of Johnson & Johnson; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH):

(a) to (c) CBI has registered a Regular Case RC-07/2001-SIU,XI on 24.12.2001 under Section 120-B IPC read with Section 420, IPC read with Section 7 & 10 of Essential Commodities Act and substantive offences thereunder against M/s N.R. Jet Enterprises Limited, Mahim, Mumbai through its Directors, M/s Johnson & Johnson Limited, Mumbai through its Directors & others on the allegation of causing loss to common consumer and Government to the tune of almost Rs. 50 crores for selling drugs on higher rates.

Revival of Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Limited

1368. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revive the Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Limited (ODCL);

(b) if so the steps taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the details of steps taken to provide suitable compensation and alternative jobs to the employees who are on the pay role of that company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) ODCL is a company under reference to the BIFR under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 since 1992. On 8.4.2003 the BIFR has formed its opinion that it is just,