

to lay down the criteria to bring essential and life saving medicines under price control by May 2, 2003;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the interim order of the Supreme Court;

(c) whether Government are set to explore all options to push through the policy of progressive decontrol;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry has already consulted the Health Ministry and has sought the Law Ministry's opinion on this issue; and

(e) if so, by what time final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (e) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 10-3-2003 in Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) 3668/2003 has directed, *inter-alia*, to formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control and further directed to review drugs which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May 2003. The order of the Supreme Court and the relevant issues have been referred to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Legal Affairs.

Fertilizer units in Jharkhand

†5158. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fertilizer units operating in Jharkhand at present;

(b) whether these units are utilizing their full capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to enhance the production capacity of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No fertilizer unit producing major fertilizers namely urea, DAP, complexes and SSP is in operation, at present, in Jharkhand State.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.