

(a) whether a number of companies are selling price controlled drugs at higher prices than the notified prices or prices fixed by the Government;

(b) if so, the names of these companies, their products; and

(c) the fixed price or notified price of each drug and the price being charged by each company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Prices of specified drugs and formulations thereof are regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 issued under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Any contravention of the provisions are liable for punishment in accordance with the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. To the extent information is available, the State Drug controller of Maharashtra has filed cases against nine traders and manufacturers in the Courts and State Drug Controller, Gujarat has initiated action against three units on account of overcharging.

Induction of Agni

6150. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL
PATIL :
SHRI R. ANBARASU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be

pleased to state :

(a) the main specifications of the 'Agni' Missile and the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to induct it in the Army;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) AGNI is not a missile system. It is a technology demonstration vehicle to establish manoeuvrable trajectory, re-entry and guidance technologies. About Rs. 55 crores have been spent on this project.

(b) to (d). Government are examining the situation consequent to the successful test flight of Agni.

Assistance to Kerala

6151. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government for increase in Central assistance for its projects during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and