

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

New Drug for Treatment of Thalassemia

1374. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new drug called DEFERIPRONE for treatment of thalassemia was launched for the first time in the world by its inventor, in New Delhi after its successful trials;

(b) if so, the details regarding the new drug, its inventor, clinical trials, effectiveness and cost-efficiency;

(c) whether the new drug is likely to revolutionise the treatment of thalassemia;

(d) if so, the comparative advantages of the new drug vis-a-vis existing drug DESFERAL for the treatment of Thalassemia in respect of cost, efficiency, management etc.; and

(e) whether the Government propose to popularise the new drug among the thalassemia by subsidising the same and make it easily available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (d) Based on encouraging clinical trial reports and recommendation of the ICMR, Drugs Controller (India) had approved marketing of the drug keller, a brand of Deferiprone, under close supervision of haematologists. Unlike the old injectible drug Desferal, a brand name of desferrioxamine, the new drug, Deferiprone is an oral drug and does not require the use of electronic pump, is not painful, and does not cause local allergic reaction.

(e) There is no proposal to provide subsidy for the purchase of the drug. Since it is being produced indigenously no difficulty in respect of its availability is anticipated.

[Translation]

Community Development Programmes

1375. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the big industrial houses have started taking interest in community development programmes in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBAHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Government is not aware of such interest being taken by big industrial houses in Community Development Programmes in rural areas.

[English]

Technological Park

1376. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up technological Parks in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b) specifically for the electronics sector, two schemes have been introduced namely, Software Technology Park (STP) and Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP). Under the STP Scheme, the Department of Electronics (DOE) have established seven software Technology Parks at Pune, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Noida, Gandhinagar and Thiruvananthapuram. State Government of West Bengal and Rajasthan have set up STPs at Calcutta and Jaipur respectively. Government has approved proposals for setting up of STPs by State Governments of Karnataka and Tamilnadu at Mysore and Madras respectively.

An EHTP may be set up by the Central Government State Government or private sector. There is no proposal to set up an EHTP by the Central Government. Six infrastructural units have been approved at Trivandrum, Hyderabad, Gurgaon, Indore, Madras and NOIDA under EHTP Scheme for providing infrastructural facilities to individual EHTPs 123 Industrial Units have been approved under the Scheme.

Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954

1377. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any machinery has been set up at the Central level to monitor the proper implementation of the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 as per the requirements of the Bureau of Indian Standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether despite the ban imposed on the use of recycled packaging material for setting foodstuffs and other edible materials, it continues to be used; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make it mandatory for the manufacturers of recycled bags to obtain the Bureau of Indian Standards Certification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The Directorate General of Health Services monitors the implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 in the country.

(c) and (d) The standards of plastic packaging material are already specified in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 and have been brought to the notice of all State Governments for implementation.

Bharat Electronics Limited

1376. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up technological Parks in the country; and

1378. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: