

India and National Fertilizer Limited in April, 1978 was to avoid centralisation in the decision making and to bring about greater autonomy to the field units. The reorganisation scheme has been fully implemented.

Guidelines for Allocation of Canalised Drug Items

1028. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KOCHAK:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any new guidelines for allocation of canalised drug items for the year 1980-81;

(b) whether the shortage of several essential drugs is likely to worsen with the possible fall in the drug output in the current year;

(c) whether new guidelines did not allow any growth factor for the organised sector of the industry;

(d) if so, whether the organised sector comprising all drug companies and Indian DGTD units have not been given any increased allocation of canalised drug items this year also; and

(e) if so, whether Government have considered to take any steps by which the vital drug shortage may not worsen again?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been some shortfall in the production of few bulk drugs including essential bulk drugs, such as Chloramphenicol Powder, Streptomycin, Dapsone, Erythromycin Stearate etc. during the year 1979-80 as compared to the previous year. However, there is no general shortage

of the related formulations of these bulk drugs. There are only periodical regional shortages of some brands of these drugs and equivalent brands are generally available in these cases. The production and availability of essential drugs is monitored in this Ministry and remedial measures wherever necessary, are taken to relieve the shortages, if any.

(c) to (d): The new guidelines for distribution of canalised bulk drugs during 1980-81 to DGTD units (organised sector) are actually an improvement over the guidelines effective during the last year inasmuch as, unlike in the past, allocation based on the best of past releases during the 3-year period ending March, 1977 can be made even if such allocations are in excess of the entitlement as per licensed capacity of such unit.

(e) As already indicated above, a watch is kept on the availability of essential drugs and remedial action as necessary is taken by the Ministry.

High Technology Drug Units

1029. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank has declared all multi-national drug companies barring two as high-technology units;

(b) if so, the names of such companies which are high-technology units and which are not high-technology units; and

(c) the recommendations of F.E.R.A. committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) (a): No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.