

(c) whether the Public Sector Companies have been able to take the leadership role in regard to availability of essential and life saving drugs in abundance at reasonable prices to meet the health needs of the people;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) A large number of bulk drugs are produced in multi-purpose plants where actual capacity utilization depends on various factors like product-mix etc. Aggregate sector-wise capacity utilization is, therefore, difficult to work out.

(b) My Ministry monitors the availability of essential and life saving drugs. Shortage of drugs, wherever noticed occasionally, are mainly either of localised nature or of brand drugs for which other equivalents are available.

(c) to (e) Public Sector Drug Undertakings have been playing an important part in improving the availability of life saving drugs like Antibiotics, Sulpha Drugs, Anti T.B. Drugs, Anti Leprosy Drugs, Anti Hypertensive Drugs, Sera and vaccine.

Production and Import of Drugs and Formulations

1368. **SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of drugs and formulations during the year 1983-84;

(b) the total imports of bulk drugs, formulations and intermediates, required for the production of bulk drugs during the year 1983-84;

(c) whether it is a fact that local production from basic stages has declined and imports of bulk drugs and drug intermediates have increased substantially as compared to the year 1982-83;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a number of companies licensed to produce bulk drugs are not producing but importing the same, if so, the names of the companies and the bulk drugs along with the source of import; and

(e) the steps taken by his Ministry to stop such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The estimated production of bulk drugs and formulations during the year 1983-84 is expected to be Rs. 345 crores and 1660 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) Details of import of bulk drugs, finished formulations and intermediates (including chemicals and solvents) during the year 1983-84 are as under :

	Import (in Rs.)
Bulk Drugs	123.6 crores
Finished formulations	3.43 crores
Intermediates (including chemicals and solvents)	33.67 crores

As compared to previous years, the import of drug intermediates including chemicals and solvents during 1983-84 has not increased substantially as a percentage of total indigenous bulk drugs production.

(d) and (e) This Ministry monitors the production of 86 bulk drugs in the organised sector. Implementation of industrial licence is being monitored. Import of various bulk drugs is governed as per the relevant provisions of the Import and Export Policy.

As and when irregularities in import are noticed, action is taken under the relevant provisions of law.

Shortage of Pilocarpin Eye Drops and other Life Saving Drugs and Import of Drugs

1369. **SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government