

Fertilizer Corporation of India

1200. SHRI S A MURUGANANTHAM Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Fertilizer Corporation of India is planning to enter new areas of production; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P C SETHI) (a) and (b) The Fertilizer Corporation of India is already engaged in the manufacture of a wide range of industrial chemicals and gases in addition to a variety of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers. The industrial products manufactured and marketed by the FCI include methanol, nitric acid, sodium nitrite, sodium nitrate, ammonium Bicarbonate, Methyl Amines and Carbon Black, explosives grade, ammonium nitrate, argon gas and liquid ammonia etc. The Corporation is also presently setting up facilities for the manufacture of soda ash at Haldia.

Proposal for Increase in the Prices of Important Drugs

1201. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the prices of few important drugs of Pfizer Lederle (cyanamide) and Parke Davis have been increased without the knowledge of his Ministry during the emergency, and

(b) whether any comparative study has been made to find out why the rates of few drugs of these companies are fixed many times higher than the cost price?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P C SETHI) (a) and (b) Prices of drugs are statutorily controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970. However, units having sales turnover not exceeding Rs 50 lakhs per annum have been exempted from taking Government's approval for revision/fixation of prices of their products.

The said order provides that the prices of bulk drugs and formulations once fixed in accordance with the provisions thereof shall not be increased except with the approval of the Central Government. The prices are fixed on the basis of cost investigation by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices keeping in view the cost structure and the reasonable margin for the profit.

While no increase in prices of bulk drugs and formulations have been allowed by the Government to M/s Lederle (Cyanamide Ltd) after the proclamation of emergency, M/s Parke Davis and Pfizers Ltd have been allowed increases in the prices of following bulk drugs and formulations—

BULK DRUGS

Name of the Co	Name of the Bulk drugs	Earlier Price	Price now fixed by the Govt
		Rs. per kg.	Rs. per kg.
1. Parke Davis	Ammodiaquum Hel.	282 72	358 00
2. Pfizers	PAS Sodium	53 29	58 00 (effective from 31-12-75)