

from 1.1.94 to 30.11.96. The year wise break up is as follows :

Year	Receipt
1994	173
1995	193
1996	164
	530

Out of these 435 were forwarded to the State Govts. for appropriate action since the officers concerned were/are working with the State Governments and they are competent to take action. No action was taken on 92 complaints for their being anonymous/psydonymous, as per existing Govt. instructions. In the case of 2 IPS officers CBI has already registered cases. One case has been referred to CBI for taking necessary action. The matters pertain to the period when these officers were on Central deputation.

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

3675. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn of the new-item captioned "During pricing panel without teeth", appearing in the Indian Express, dated October 18, 1996;

(b) if so, whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority set up of regulate and periodically revise the prices of drugs will not have any statutory status as originally envisaged;

(c) whether the purpose for establishing NPPA has been lost because of its being non-functional; and

(d) whether the Government are considering to make drug pricing panel more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a), Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has been created under the Drug Policy, 1986 as modified in 1994. The modifications did not stipulate that the NPPA should be a statutory authority. It has been decided that the NPPA will be an attached office under the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. As officer in the rank and pay scale of Secretary to the Government of India has assumed the charge of Chairman, NPPA and is engaged in the setting up of this new authority at the earliest. Work as envisaged in the Drug Policy would be entrusted to the NPPA and that is bound to make it a very effective body.

Supply of Urea

3676. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allotment of urea to Karnataka during Kharif and Rabi seasons of 1995-96;

(b) whether there is any gap between the requirement and the supply thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken to meet the requirement of urea in future?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). The table below gives the assessed requirement, availability and consumption of urea in Karnataka during Kharif and Rabi seasons of 1995-96 :

('000 tonnes)

	Kharif 1995	Rabi 1995-96
1. Assessed requirement	430.00	370.34
2. Quantity made available (Supplies)	466.56	425.07
3. Consumption	452.47	307.34

As can be seen from the above table, the supply of urea was adequate to take care of the requirement.

[Translation]

Additions to the SC/ST Lists

3677. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI RAM SAJEEVAN :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a comprehensive revision of the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes lists;

(b) whether a Committee has been set up for the purpose;

(c) if so, the composition of the said committee and by which date the report of the Committee is expected to be submitted;

(d) whether the Government would consider the proposals for inclusion of Panika Tribe of Madhya Pradesh, Passi Caste of Gujarat and Chain and Layah Communities of Bihar in the SC/ST lists; and

(e) if so, the time by which a decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) 'Panika' is already specified as a Scheduled Tribe in relation to certain districts of Madhya Pradesh, and 'Pasi' is specified as a Scheduled Caste in Gujarat. There is no proposal to include 'Chain' and 'Layah' in the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe lists in relation to the State of Bihar.

(e) Does not arise.

Treatment of Infertility

3678. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICAR has prepared an effective medicine for treatment of infertility problem in cows and buffaloes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures adopted by the Government for treatment of infertility in cows and buffaloes;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any survey in the country to identify the number of infertile cows and buffaloes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Agriculture, have a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Systematic Control of Livestock Diseases of National Importance" which has a component for control of infertility, sterility and abortions, being implemented by the States on 50:50 sharing basis.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

New Variety of Rice

3679. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Super rice variety being evolved at the Manila-based International Rice Research Institute would yield 10 to 12 tonnes per hectare;

(b) whether the special variety of rice would be ready for the commercial production only after seven years from now;

(c) if so, whether the Government are making any special attempts to expedite the research process so that the commercial production might start at an early date; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) It is hoped that the new super rice variety being evolved by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila would raise the potential yield of rice by 20-25%. This may work out to around 10 tonnes per hectare since the potential yield of the existing varieties is estimated around 7-8 tonnes/ha.

(b) It may take 5-8 years to develop such a variety.

(c) and (d). IRRI has its own research priorities and its activities are not regulated by the Indian Government. However, ICAR scientists are also working on development of similar type of varieties and are collaborating with IRRI in this respect.

Patents of Products

3680. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether by giving protection to intellectual property rights, India can earn \$ 30 billion in genetic products;

(b) if so, furnish the details of fresh initiatives taken/proposed and short term and long term strategies finalised for strengthening drug sector to achieve commanding position in the global market;

(c) the impact of policy changes in the drug sector during the past three years and details of fresh policy initiatives under consideration; and

(d) the details of steps taken to encourage R and D efforts in Drug Sector and impact thereof along with the further fresh initiatives under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) The international generic market i.e. market of drugs which are off-patent is available even presently. It will continue to grow with the expiry of patents and, it has no linkage with the status of intellectual property rights in the country.

(b) to (d). With the opening up of economy and liberalisation effected in licensing policy, import policy and tariff matters, necessary amendments have been effected in Drug Policy, 86 through modifications announced in September, 1994, followed by the Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Various incentives have been provided to give impetus to research and development which has assumed greater importance in view of world trade scenario. Challenges faced, therefore, include sustaining indigenous industry through vigorous R and D efforts and making it internationally cost effective in bulk drug production.