GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1065
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003
PRODUCTION OF DOMESTIC PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY
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Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of domestic pharmaceutical industry is less thatn one percent of the total World market;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to improve the domestic share in the international pharmaceutical business?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH)

- (a) to (c) In February, 2002, Government announced the `Pharmaceutical Policy-2002`. The main objectives of this policy are:
- (a) Ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption.
- (b) Strengthening the indigeneous capability for cost effective quality production and exports of pharmaceuticals by reducing barriers to trade in the pharmaceutical sector.
- (c) Strengthening the system of quality control over drug and pharmaceutical production and distribution to make quality an essential attribute of the Indian pharmaceutical industry and promoting rational use of pharmaceuticals.
- (d)Encouraging R&D in the pharmaceutical sector in a manner compatible with the country's needs and with particular focus on diseases endemic or relevant to India by creating an environment conductive to channelising a higher level of investment in to R&D in pharmaceuticals in India.
- (e) Creating an incentive framework for the pharmaceutical industry, which promotes new investment into pharmaceutical industry and encourages the introduction of new technologies and new drugs.

A public Interest Litigation in Karnataka High Court has resulted in an order dated. 12.11.2002 which stops the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Government has filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Karnataka High Court.