

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2775

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2003

PROCESSING OF OPIUM

AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH;DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI;YASHWANT SINHA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of opium production in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has decided to allow private sector participation in the opium procession;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is importing processed opium to meet the demands of the pharmaceutical units in the country;
- (e) if so, the total foreign exchange used by the Government on the import of processed opium;
- (f) whether any legislative amendment is required to process opium in the country to meet the demand of the pharmaceutical industries;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) whether all the Government Opium and Alkaloid Factories, which were set up decades ago have been suitably upgraded;
- (i) if so, the details thereof; and (j) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL):

(a)

Financial Year (Qty.in Mts Its at 90`C)

State	2000-01	2001-2002	2002-03	2003-04
Madhya Pradesh	497.577	216.028	364.589	209.413
Utter Pradesh	274.843	163.566	64.003	28.663
Rajasthan	543.507	393.891	390.874	262.731
Total	1315.927	773.485	819.466	500.807

(b) and (c) The Government has decided to allow the production of opium alkaloids/active pharmaceutical ingredients in the private sector under appropriate licence in order to increase the utilization of indigenous opium and the manufacture of codeine phosphate/opium alkaloids/other downstream products for domestic consumption and export.

(d) Certain opium alkaloids, viz, codeine phosphate is imported by the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works (GOAWs) to meet the demands of the pharmaceutical units in the country.

(e) Foreign exchange incurred for purchase of Codeine Phosphate during the last 3 years are given below:

Year	Amount in US\$
1999-2000	70,55,00
2000-2001	65,90,000
2001-2002	44,10,000
2002-2003	38,15,000

(f) No, Sir.

(g) In view of (f) above, does not arise.

(h) and (i) An Action Plan is under implementation (or the enhancement and upgradation of the production facilities of the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works (GOAWs), Neemuch and Ghazipur for manufacture of opium alkaloids/active pharmaceutical ingredients and other value added products.

(j) In view of (h) & (i) above, does not arise.