

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:486
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2006
DISPOSAL OF MATERIAL BEFORE ITS EXPIRY
Bauri Smt. Susmita;Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the delay on the part of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Ltd. (BIBCOL) to decide and dispose of the materials before its expiry resulted in a loss of Rs. 91.39 lakh ;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) The steps taken to avoid such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) Due to change in policy of Government to procure Oral Polio Vaccine formulated out of the bulk obtained from WHO pre-qualified sources only, BIBCOL could not dispose off 6.149 million doses of OPV vaccine left over at the end of the year 2001-02. Disposal of the stock through the trade market could not be done immediately as number of steps such as newspaper advertisement, verification of credentials, licenses etc of the prospective super distributors had to be taken. In the meantime, validity of the bulk expired and, as a result, the stock amounting to Rs 91.30 lakhs had to be written off. The CVO of the company is investigating the matter for fixing the responsibility, if any.

(c) The bulk vaccine is now being procured from WHO pre-qualified sources only thereby leaving no scope for such an eventuality.