

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4943
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010
DRUG MANUFACTURING COMPANIES
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of regulatory authority to deal with various issues relating to drugs in the country;
- (b) whether there are more than 500 drugs for sale and 50,000 companies operating in the market in the country causing different problems in the pharmaceutical sector;
- (c) if so, whether any committee has been formed to resolve these problems;
- (d) if so, whether the said committee has submitted any report to the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

- (a) The pricing of drugs is looked after by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers through National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) while the issues of production license and quality of the drugs is looked after by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
- (b) As per the information available from the 'Directory of Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Units in India, 2007', there are 10,563 pharmaceutical manufacturers in the country, 8174 manufacture 'formulation' drugs and remaining 2389 are engaged in the manufacturing of bulk drugs. Because of the diverse nature of the problems of Pharmaceuticals industry, these are attended to by the concerned Government Regulatory Authorities depending upon the nature of the problem and jurisdiction of the Department.
- (c) to (e) The Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 which proposes to bring the essential medicines as contained in the National List of Essential Medicines 2003 under price control (subject to certain conditions and exemptions), in addition to the 74 drugs which are at present under price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995, was prepared in consultation with all the stake holders. This proposal is at present before the Group of Ministers (GOM).