

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3722

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009

SUPPLY OF GENERIC DRUGS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether multinational drug firms have warned the Indian generic producers to stop supplying drugs to treat chronic diseases like AIDS, cancer and cardiovascular problems;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Union Government has issued compulsory licence to drug manufacturers which permits to override a patent for product and introduce a copy to protect public health; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) There are no information in the knowledge of the Department of Pharmaceuticals where multi national drug companies have warned the Indian generic drug producers to stop supplying drugs to treat chronic diseases like AIDS, cancer and cardio-vascular problems. However, while participating in one of the Global Pharma events, certain multi national companies have raised IPR issues against Indian Generic companies.

The Department in collaboration with Pharmexcil is operating a scheme of IPR Facilitation. These centers would help the domestic pharmaceutical companies particularly the small scale units to understand IPR issues.

(d) & (e): The Indian Patent Office has not issued any compulsory license since 01-01-2005, the date from which the amended Patent Act, 1970 provided for product patents in Pharmaceuticals.