

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1194
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
INDIGENOUS PHARMACEUTICALS
DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO

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

e:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any action to protect indigenous pharmaceuticals in view of India being declared as 'Priority Watch list' by the US; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The Annual Special 301 Report for 2003, released by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) retains India in the 'Priority Watch List' along with 10 other countries. India is being kept under this category since 1995. USTR lists countries as 'Priority Foreign Country', 'Priority Watch List' and 'Watch List'. Under US Rules, the USTR is obliged to initiate action against only such countries as are listed under 'Priority Foreign Country' and that too only after holding consultations with the Governments of the concerned countries. As such, there is no immediate threat to the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry.