

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:805

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006

REPORT OF PANEL ON PRICES OF ESSENTIAL DRUGS

Barman Shri Hiten;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

(a) whether a panel set up by the Government to study the legal aspects of Supreme Court directive on controlling prices of essential drugs has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the said panel; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (c): The Supreme Court vide its interim order dated 10.03.2003 in SLP (c) no.3668/2003 directed the Government, inter-alia, to 'consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control...`.

A Joint Committee with members from the drug industry has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (C&PC) to suggest, inter-alia, interpretation of order dated 10.03.2003 of the Supreme Court in SLP 3668/2003. The Joint Committee is yet to submit its report to the Government.