

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 688
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22nd November, 2019

Impact of closing of pharma companies in China

688. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether it has come to notice of the Ministry that the environmental disruptions resulting in closing of tens of thousands of pharma companies in China is impacting Indian Pharma Sector;
- (b) whether any assessment has been made about shortage of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) and closing down of nearly 200 API units in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and how the Ministry is planning to address this serious problem; and
- (d) whether there are alternative countries for importing APIs and if not, how would the Ministry ensure that drugs manufactured with help of APIs are kept at a reasonable price?

ANSWER

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)**

(a) & (b): The Government is not aware of any such report.

(c): In view of reply to (a) & (b) above, question does not arise.

(d): Apart from China, APIs are also imported from USA, Italy, Singapore, Hong kong, Spain, Germany, France, Japan, Denmark, Netherlands, Indonesia, Korea, etc. from which Bulk drugs/APIs can be imported during contingencies. The policies formulated by Government from time to time are designed to minimize country's dependence on imports and to give fillip to indigenous manufacturing. In this direction, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has formulated a Scheme namely 'Assistance to Bulk Drug Industry for Common Facility Centre' for providing assistance to Bulk Drug Industry for Common Facility Centre in any upcoming bulk drug park promoted by State Governments/State Corporations. An Inter-Ministerial Task Force was also constituted under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State (Chemicals & Fertilizers) on 18.04.2018 to formulate a roadmap for the enhanced production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in the country.

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