

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1160
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July, 2018

Selling off the Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

1160. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of West Bengal has written a letter to the Central Government asking not to sell off the profit making Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government is planning to sell off the BCPL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS,
ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS AND SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L.
MANDAVIYA)**

(a) and (b): Yes Sir. Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal has requested the Union Minister of Commerce & Industries to intervene in the matter of selling of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL).

(c) and (d): The Government had set up a Committee of three senior Ministers – Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Minister of Finance and Minister of Road Transport & Highways to comprehensively examine the status of all Pharmaceutical Companies in the public sector and suggest the future course of action. The Ministers, after detailed deliberations, recommended that after meeting the liabilities of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) from sale of their surplus land to government agencies, two PSUs (Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited and Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited) be closed and other two PSUs (Hindustan Antibiotics Limited and Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited) sold strategically. The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 28.12.2016 accepted the recommendations of the Ministers. Further steps in pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet, including that for strategic sale of BCPL are being taken.
