

1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir	32.3	37.4	79.8
Karnataka	88.0	119.8	102.5
Kerala	65.0	104.2	75.8
Madhya Pradesh	52.3	104.5	72.6
Maharashtra	168.6	350.9	261.6
Manipur	4.2	6.1	6.5
Meghalaya	3.4	5.7	7.2
Mizoram	7.5	6.5	8.8
Nagaland	3.3	3.7	4.2
Orissa	23.0	60.4	29.6
Punjab	52.4	100.0	79.1
Rajasthan	56.7	73.0	78.2
Sikkim	1.9	3.3	8.8
Tamilnadu	94.6	173.0	129.0
Tripura	2.9	5.4	2.2
Uttar Pradesh	185.3	281.0	430.4
West Bengal	72.2	140.6	106.7
Union Territories			
Andaman & Nicobar	2.0	4.3	0.2
Chandigarh	7.4	13.8	6.5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.2	0.6	0.2
Delhi	93.8	129.0	96.8
Daman and Diu	0.4	0.8	0.2
Lakshadweep	0.2	0.3	0.5
Pondicherry	1.0	3.9	3.0

Drug Prices

*20 SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

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

(a) whether sharp rise in the price of a commonly used pharmaceutical drugs has been noticed following the introduction of the Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by any agency in this regard;

(c) if so, the extent of price rise indicated by such agency;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the price rise;

(e) whether under Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995, the Union Government is authorised to fix the prices of drugs (whole sale and retail);

(f) whether the Union Government are going to delegate the power of fixing the prices of drugs to the States, manufacturing the drugs; and

(g) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA) : (a) Studies indicate that while certain drugs have shown some increase in prices following DPCO, 1995, prices of some have remained unchanged and that of others have shown a downward trend.

(b) and (c). The Operations Research Group (ORG), a market research organisation, has recently conducted a survey, on 6495 formulations for the period December 1994 compared with December 1995. According to this survey, there has not been an excessive increase in the overall prices of medicines. It found that there was no change in prices of 53% of the medicines, a rise of 1 to 25% for 24% of the medicines, and increase above 25% in respect of 8%. Further, it found that prices declined in case of 15% of the medicines.

(d) Substantial proportion of the medicines are under price control. For medicines outside price control, whenever abnormal price increase of commonly used drugs is noticed and if such rise is unjustified then action under DPCO is initiated.

(e) Authority to fix the prices of drugs, which constitutes an essential commodity, is derived from the Essential Commodities Act, 1995.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Cross Bar System

1. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which cross bar system in Ajmer in Rajasthan is likely to be fully replaced by the electronic system;

(b) the progress achieved in this regard so far and the amount spent thereon;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to streamline the telecommunication system in Ajmer district;

(d) the reasons for the continuous qualitative decline in service though there has been a quantitative increase in the tele-communication network; and

(e) the financial allocation made for increasing the number of exchanges during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Cross bar system in Ajmer in Rajasthan is planned for replacement by electronic system in the year 1998.

(b) Telecom Commission has issued guidelines for examination by Heads of Circles for replacement