

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1000
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
PRICES OF NON SCHEDULED MEDICINES
Mishra Dr. Rajesh Kumar

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

- (a) whether the prices of non-scheduled medicines have sky-rocketed during the last three years on branded generics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote sale of competitive generic medicines; and
- (c) the likely cost advantage to the patients if medicines under Government scheme for generic medicines is made operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (c): Prices of Non-Scheduled formulations are fixed¹ by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected. As per ORG IMS monthly SSA report for the month of July, 2008, increase in price with respect to prices in June, 2008 have been found to be only in respect of 0.05% of packs as against the data available for 55748 formulation packs. In the draft National Pharmaceutical Policy-2006, the Department has proposed, inter-alia, to promote Generic Drugs.

Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings in consultation with the Government are exploring the possibility of opening retail drug outlets for promoting sales of generics in selected States to begin with.