

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:406
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009
INCREASE IN PRICES OF MEDICINES
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Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been steep rise in the prices of albumin, Heparin, Mox 500, Novomix, Novorapid in the market;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the extent of Government control operationalised so far despite the repeated assurance on the matter of price control?

Answer

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

(a)to(c): The NPPA fixes/ revises the prices of formulations containing 74 bulk drugs listed in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). The price fixation/ revision is also a continuous process and the prices are fixed/ revised as per the formula given Para 7 under DPCO, 95.

The Novomix and Novorapid are the Scheduled formulations under DPCO.95 containing Scheduled bulk drug insulin. The price of Novomix 30 penfill and Novorapid penfill in 3 ml cartridge pack was revised from Rs.392.85/ pack (exclusive of taxes) to Rs. 425.32/pack (exclusive of taxes) on 29.1.2008 vide SO No.187(E). The reason for the price increase is due to the increase in the imported C.I.F. price based on landed cost as the earlier price was fixed in the year 2004.

Albumin, Heparin and Mox 500 are non-Scheduled medicines which are out of price control under DPCO,95. However, the prices of those medicines are monitored by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) as per the guidelines on the basis of monthly report of ORG-IMS. On verification of ORG-IMS data for the month of October, 2008, it is found that the price increase of all the above three non-Scheduled medicines are within 10% per annum.