

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1268

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009

PRICES OF PATENTED DRUGS

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

(a) whether the prices of patented drugs imported are controlled in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the prices of such drugs are monitored; and

(d) if so, the details of the authority monitoring the prices of such drugs indicating the list of products, medicines and their prices, therapeutic group and names of the companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a)&(b): Under the provisions of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO.95) the prices of 74 bulk drugs, specified in the first Scheduled, and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) / Government fix or revise prices of Scheduled drugs / formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. No one can sell any Scheduled drug / formulation at a price higher than the price fixed by NPPA/Govt.

(c) & (d): There is no separate provision in the DPCO,95 for monitoring the prices of patented drugs imported into country. In respect of drugs which are not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 i.e. non -scheduled drugs, NPPA as part of its price monitoring activity, regularly examines the movement in their prices. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the specific manufacturers are asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

Based on the monitoring of prices of non-Scheduled formulation, NPPA has fixed prices in case of 27 formulation packs under Para-
itf(b) and companies have reduced price voluntarily in case of 64 formulation packs. Thus in all, prices of 91 packs of non-Scheduled drugs were got reduced as a result of the intervention of NPPA since inception.