

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:502
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010
INCREASE IN PRICES OF DRUGS
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether global financial crisis has led to increase in the prices of drugs/medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to revise the `drugs price control order` and `essential drugs list`;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As per information available in the Secondary Stock Audit Report of ORG-IMS for the month of September, 2009 a comparative position of change in price in relation to percentage share of packs is as under:

Price changes	Average percentage of total number of packs 2007-08 (October-September)	Average percentage of total number of packs 2008-09 (October-September)
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Price Increase	1.437%	1.979%
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Price Decline	0.953%	1.724%
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No change in price	97.610%	96.297%
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During the period 2008-09 (October - September), the price on an average each month has remained unchanged or decreased in case of 98% of the total packs; as against 98.56 of the total packKs during the corresponding period of 2007-08.

(c) to (e) The Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006 is under examination of the Government. Decision to revise the `Drugs Prices Control Order` will depend upon the finafization of the said policy. As regards revision of National List of Essential Medicines which was last revised in 2003, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has intimated that at present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.