

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1169
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010
HIGH PRICES OF PATENTED MEDICINES
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Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the average annual turnover of patented medicines and generic medicines in the country at present;
- (b) whether the prices of patented medicines are higher than that of generic medicines;
- (c) if so, the average difference in prices of the medicines of these two categories;
- (d) whether medical treatment will become cheap by promoting the use of generic medicines in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The data regarding turnover and difference in prices in respect of patented medicines and generic medicines is not centrally maintained. However, the prices of patented medicines are generally higher as compared to generic medicines and, hence, the treatment of ailments/diseases by use of generic medicines will cost lesser as compared to treatment by use of patented medicines wherever possible.