

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4833  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010  
COST OF VACCINES  
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

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

- (a) Whether the prices of retail vaccines across the country are highly inflated;
- (b) If so, whether certain pharmaceutical companies in the country are offering the price of their vaccines to private doctors at a discounted price, resulting in huge margin of profit to doctors;
- (c) If so, whether the Government has any plan to place vaccines back under price control as was the case till 1995; and
- (d) If so, the reasons thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): This Ministry is not aware of any such report in the recent past. Vaccines are non-Scheduled drugs and not covered under the price control category of drugs under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO.95). The manufacturers fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). However, NPPA, as a part of price monitoring activity, regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. 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 (20% before 01.04.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is 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.

(c)& (d) Presently, there is no proposal to place vaccines under the price control.