

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1413
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
INCREASE IN PRICES OF MEDICINES
Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh

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

- (a) the percentage increase in the prices of all categories of medicines during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the rate of increase in the prices of generic medicines and medicines with trade names of companies;
- (c) the action taken to promote the sale of generic medicines; and
- (d) the details of assistance provided to States including Chhattisgarh in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The number of packs marketed as per IMS Health Reports have been in the range of 52,019 to 60,664 during the last three years and the current year. Details of percentage number of packs whose prices have increased, decreased and remained stable on the monthly basis in percentage terms as per Retail Audit Reports of IMS Health Reports for the last three financial years are as follows:

Percentage number of packs whose prices increased:

Year April May June July August Sept Oct

2007-08 0.77 0.14 0.10 0.02 0.13 0.12 0.01

2008-09 0.07 0.12 0.30 0.05 0.11 15.89 1.73

2009-10 1.99 0.62 4.75 0.01 0.07 3.21 0.14

2010-11 0.09 0.02 1.98 0.22

Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

0.01 0.32 0.33 0.03 0.00

2.44 0.10 0.07 0.02 8.74

0-003 2.92 0.03 0.02 2.66

Percentage number of packs whose prices decreased:

Year April May June July August Sept Oct

2007-08 0.22 0.20 0.42 0.02 0.09 0.02 0.12

2008-09 0.01 0.03 0.08 0.02 0.09 10.85 1.32

2009-10 1.32 0.48 5.15 0.02 0.02 2.96 0.02

2010-11 0.06 0.01 1.45 0.14

Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

0.00 0.07 0.12 0.03 0.01

2,41 0.29 0.02 0.03 6.67

0.01 1.31 0.02 0.03 0.87

Percentage number of packs whose prices remained stable:

Year April May June July August Sept Oct

2007-08 98.99 99.65 99.48 99.96 99.78 99.85 99.87

2008-09 99.93 99.85 99.62 99.92 99.80 73.26 96.95

2009-10 96.69 98.90 90.10 99.96 99.92 93.83 99.84

2010-11 99.85 99.97 96.57 99.65

Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

99.99 99.61 99.55 99.93 99.99

95.15 99.61 99.91 99.95 84.59

99.99 95.76 99.95 99.96 96.47

As can be seen from the above tables, only a small number of packs have shown an increase in prices during the last three years while the prices of most of the packs remained stable. Further, monitoring of prices is being done across the board for both generic and branded medicines. No distinction is made between the two.

(c) Initiative have been taken to launch Jan Aushadhi Campaign and, also various publicity programmes are being undertaken to educate the general public and other stakeholders about the quality of medicines and the huge difference in prices between the

generic and branded names and to establish more Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug Stores.

(d) Since no Jan Aushadhi Store has been opened in Chhatisgarh so far, no assistance has been given to the State of Chhatisgarh.