

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3897

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2010

PRICES OF MEDICINES

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Panda Shri Prabodh

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

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has felt that the Government's decision to fix the prices of all 354 medicines listed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare would be difficult to achieve under the existing rules;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to bring in all the listed medicines for price fixation through the public interest clause;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) : The Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy,2006 which proposes to bring the essential medicines as contained in the NLEM 2003 under price control, in addition to the 74 drugs which are at present under price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO.95), was prepared in consultation with all the stakeholders. This proposal is at present before the Group of Minister (GOM).

Further, it also needs to be recognized that all the drugs are essential depending on requirement of a particular patient or a group of patients.

Presently, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is implementing provisions of DPCO.95 to make available quality medicines at reasonable prices to the masses.