

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1438
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012
CANCER DRUGS UNDER DPCO
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to include many cancer drugs under the Drug Price Control Order as a part of the New List of Essential Medicines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure affordability of cancer drugs in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a)&(b); The Department of Pharmaceuticals had prepared a draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) which proposes to bring medicines as under National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011 based on the criteria as stipulated by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under price control. The NLEM, 2011 contain 33 Anti-Cancer medicines also. The draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) was circulated among the concerned Ministries/ Stakeholders. The draft Policy was also available for comments of any other interested person on the Department's website www.pharmaceuticals.gov.in by 30.11.2011. The views from all the concerned stakeholders which have been received are being examined for being submitted to the Group of Ministers.

(c): As a part of price monitoring activity, IMPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly report of ORG IMS (now renamed as IMS Health) 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 is noticed, subject to prescribed conditions, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which 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.