

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:873

ANSWERED ON:09.07.2009

HIKE IN PRICES OF DRUGS

Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has permitted drug companies to raise price of 285 brands of packaged drugs;
- (b) if so, whether the prices of anti-bacterial doxycycline, insulin, multi- vitamin syrup and human insulin brands had gone up by 15 to 29%;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these drugs come under the price ceiling of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority; and
- (e) if so, the details of medicines whose prices have not been raised?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 the prices of 74 bulk drugs, included in its schedule and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs, are controlled. NPPA/Government fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 which is a continuous process. Prices of 285 formulation packs were fixed/revised by the NPPA on 12.03.2009. The list of 285 formulation packs included 6 cases of formulations imported in finished form, 25 cases of new formulation packs, 28 cases of price revision and 226 cases of first time price fixation on suo-motto basis. Prices revision cases include both downward and upward revision.

Out of 28 cases of price revision, there were 12 cases of upward price revision of Insulin / Human Insulin formulations where the increase ranged from 14.56% to 17.08%, one case of Doxycycline formulation with an increase of 26.22% and one case of Multivitamin syrup with an increase of 26.15%. The increase in prices were mainly due to change in Conversion Cost (CC), Packing Charges (PC) & Packing Material (PM) norms and bulk drug rates. The price in respect one pack of combination of Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole tablet was reduced. In addition, prices were also revised downward in two cases of imported formulations namely Multivitamin tablet and Methyl Prednisolone tablet. Insulin formulations fall under the category of non-ceiling price, whereas the other two cases, Doxycycline and Multivitamin syrup are covered under the category of ceiling price.