

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6809  
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012  
FORMULATION OF SEPARATE PRICE INDEX  
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a separate price index to monitor the trends in prices of drugs and medicines;
- (b) if so, the details of the trends in retail and bulk medicine prices during 2010-11;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to consider formulating such an index; and
- (e) if so, the time by which the said index is likely to be formulated?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion has informed that they have not formulated a separate price index to monitor the trends in prices of drugs and medicines. However, the details of wholesale price indices (Base 2004-05) for the components of Drugs and Medicines`sub group for 2010-11 is as follows:

DRUGS & MEDICINES 115.4

Antibiotics 112.2

Vitamins 120.6

Vaccines 123.1

Paracetamol/Analgesic 123.1

Antacid and Digestive Preparations 128.2

Gelatine Capsules (empty) 103.7

Ayurvedic Medicines 118.5

Others 113.2

(d) & (e): The Government has set up a Working Group under Chairmanship of Dr.Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member Planning Commission on 19 March 2012 to, inter-alia, select the new base year, appropriate commodity basket and examine system of allocation of weights to them so as to reflect the structural changes in the economy. The committee is expected to submit its report by 31st December 2012.