

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6851  
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012  
AVAILABILITY OF CHEAP AND AFFRORDABLE DRUGS  
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

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

(a) whether the availability of cheap and affordable drugs are being hindered by the existing Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) regulations and patent regime; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to placate the fears that the new patent regime couki raise the cost of life saving drugs?

**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): The Indian Patent Act have provisions for making available cheap and affordable medicines.

(b): Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has informed that so far one Compulsory license has been granted by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks to a drug manufacturing company since the amendment of the Patents Act in 2005 for an application filed under Section 84 of the Patents Act (as amended in 2005), As per the orders of the Controller of Patents, Mumbai compulsory license has been granted to M/s Natco for manufacture of "NEXAVAR", M/s Natco Pharma Ltd, are required to sell this drug at a price not exceeding Rs. 8880/- for a pack of 120 tablets, required for a month's treatment which was earlier being sold by M/s Bayer Corporation at Rs, 2,80,428/- for one month treatment.