

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3205
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012
INCREASE IN PRICES OF PAIN KILLERS
Singh Shri Rakesh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase the prices of pain killers and other medicines being used in the treatment of diabetes;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) which regulates the prices of medicines has reviewed the prices of these medicines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to take steps to check the prices of these medicines in view of increasing number of patients using these medicines in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

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) : National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has no proposal to increase the price of pain killers and other medicines being used in the treatment of diabetes.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) to (f) : Under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO.95), the prices of 74 bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. NPPA fix or revise prices of scheduled drugs / formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO,95, no person can sell any scheduled formulation (medicine) to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified / approved by the NPPA/Government. The prices of non-scheduled / price de-controlled medicines are fixed by the manufacturers themselves and NPPA monitors price movements of these non-scheduled medicines.

As a part of price-monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of IMS Health and the information furnished by individual manufactures are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Whenever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

NPPA does not propose for price increase of medicines itself. NPPA fixes / revises prices of 74 Scheduled bulk drugs and formulations based on them from time to time based on Form III/ IV applications or on suo-motu basis on account of downward revision in the notified price of bulk drug /statutory duties and in the cases of price violation in respect of scheduled formulations.

The issues relating to pricing of medicine as a whole are being considered in the draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) prepared by the Department of Pharmaceuticals which is presently under considerations of the Group of Ministers(GoM).