

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:310  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012  
INCREASE IN PRICES OF DRUGS  
Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

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

- (a) the percentage of increase in the prices of scheduled drugs during the last three years;
- (b) whether the pharmaceutical companies have sought permission from the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority to increase the prices of some scheduled drugs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and
- (d) the details of the drugs the prices of which have been reduced during the said period?

**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) The prices of the medicines containing the drug Sulphamethoxazole, Nalidixic Acid, Aspirin, Pheniramine Maleate, Rifampicin, Idochlorohydroxyquinoline, Cloxacillin sodium, Dextropropoxyphene, Cefotaxime Sodium, Chloroquin, Carbamazepine and Vitamin E were increased and the prices revised in this regard are applicable to all the manufacturers of these medicines. The details of the price fixed by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for scheduled formulations during the last three years and the current year and the percentage of increase is given below:

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
(upto 31st July, 12)				

Price Increased	184	223	257	72
	10.09%	31.28%	42.34%	20.45%

Price Decreased	450	60	50	83
	24.67%	8.42%	8.24%	23.58%

Price fixed for first time	1155	371	239	165
	63.32%	52.03%	39.37%	46.88%

No change in prices	35	59	61	32
	1.92%	8.27%	10.05%	9.09%

Total	1824	713	607	352
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(b) & (c): There are 4 bulk drugs specified under First Schedule of OPCO 1995. Of these, prices of bulk drugs and their salts / esters /

derivatives / stereo-isomers manufactured indigenously are fixed / revised from time to time under Para 3 of DPCO`1995. As per provisions of said paragraph, any manufacturer, who desires revision of the maximum sale price of a bulk drug fixed, is required to make an application to the Government/ NPPA in Form I of DPCO`1995. Accordingly, prices of scheduled bulk drugs are fixed / revised after examination of the requisite data / information and by allowing a post tax return, as applicable under the said paragraph. The price of scheduled bulk drugs are also fixed / revised under Para 11 of DPCO`1995 where any manufacturer of a bulk drug fails to submit an application for price fixation / revision, as the case may be. During the last three years i.e., 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, NPPA has fixed / revised the prices in the case of 28, 21 and 21 drugs respectively as per details given in the Annexure-I. This includes both upward and downward price revision based on the application / Form-I / data received from the respective manufacturers. The prices have been increased as per the provisions of the DPCO 1995. The price fixation / revision is a continuous process under the DPCO 1995. The prices are revised based on the applications of the companies and by applying the formula given in para 7 of DPCO 1995.

(d): The details of scheduled bulk drugs for which prices have been reduced during the said period of three years are given Annexure-II. These include the medicines containing the bulk drug Ibuprofen, Ranitidine, Salbutamol Sulphate, Betamethasone and Toinaftate, Vitamin A and Vitamin C and the prices revised in this regard are applicable to all the manufacturers of these medicines.