

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5930

ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013

REDUCTION IN PRICES OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS MEDICINES

Rajendran Shri C.;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has reduced the prices of life-saving drugs/medicines during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) whether there are some life-saving drugs which are beyond the reach of the common man even after reducing of prices by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to reduce further the prices of such medicines/drugs, if so, the time-frame set for the said purpose; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government to ensure the adequate availability of such medicines/ drugs at affordable prices?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) There is no classification as 'life saving drugs/medicines' under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995). Under the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 prices of 74 bulk scheduled drugs and the formulations containing any of these drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs / formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO,1995. Details of bulk drugs whose prices have been reduced by NPPA during the last three years are at annexure-I. The details of reduction in prices of derivative formulations is at Annexure -II.

(e) & (f) Revision of prices of medicines as per the provisions of DPCO, 1995 is a continuous and ongoing exercise. As far as availability is concerned, whenever any shortage of drugs is reported in any part of the country, the NPPA immediately takes up the matter with the concerned manufacturer asking them to rush the supply in the affected area.