

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1319
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
TASK FORCE TO CONTROL PRICES OF MEDICINES
Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up any Committee headed by Pronab Sen Task Force for seeking suggestion on price control of medicines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the task force has submitted its reports;
- (d) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the Committee;
- (e) whether all the suggestions were taken into consideration for price control of medicines/drugs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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 (c): In November, 2004 the Government set up a Task Force under the Principal Advisor, Planning Commission Dr. Pronab Sen to look into the issue of price control, option other than price control and other issues and to make recommendations for making available life saving drugs. The Pronab Sen Committee submitted its recommendation in September, 2005.

(d) to (f): The Task Force had recommended that the price regulation should be on the basis of essentiality of the drugs and it should be applied only for formulations and not to upstream products such as bulk drugs. The Department of Pharmaceuticals prepared a draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) based on the criteria of essentiality on which comments were received from various stakeholders and the same was placed before the Group of Ministers(GoM). Based on the recommendations of the GoM, National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy-2012(NPPP-2012) was formulated for controlling and regulating the prices of medicines of specified dosages and strengths as under National List of Essential Medicines-2011. NPPP-2012 was placed before the Cabinet and after its approval by the Cabinet on 22.11.2012, NPPP-2012 was notified on 07.12.2012.