

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2902

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES OF MEDICINES

Ajnala Dr. Rattan Singh

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

- (a) whether there is a wide gap between the retail and wholesale prices of medicines;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any step has been taken to reduce the price gap between the wholesale and retail prices of medicines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the time by which the steps are likely to be taken in this regard?

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 (e): Government has notified the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 15th May 2013 in supersession of DPCO, 1995. All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 have been included in the first schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. DPCO, 2013 provides for fixation of ceiling price with a provision of only 16% margin to retailer on the PTR (Price to Retailer). National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has so far, notified the ceiling prices in respect of 291 medicines under provisions of the said order. As regards non-scheduled drugs, there is no provision of fixation of ceiling prices.