

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3082  
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014  
UNIFORMITY IN PRICES OF DRUGS  
Rajesh Shri M. B.;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that different prices are being charged by drugs and medicine manufacturers for the same formula drugs under different trade names;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the remedial measures taken/ proposed to be taken to regulate the prices and ensure uniformity in the retail prices for the same formula drugs and medicines;
- (c) whether the Government is evolving a mechanism for determining the price of medicines on the basis of various brands instead of determining the price on the basis of the raw material, which is not reasonable;
- (d) if so, whether the pharmaceutical industry is likely to be regulated so that the patients can be saved from the manipulations of pharmaceutical companies; and
- (e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done 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)& (b): Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) provides that all existing manufactures of scheduled formulations, selling the branded or generic or both the versions of scheduled formulations at a price higher than the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable) so fixed and notified by the Government, shall revise the prices of all such formulations downward not exceeding the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable).

(b)to (e): Prices of the drugs/medicines are controlled by the Government as per the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Orders (DPCO) notified from time to time. The Government has notified DPCO, 2013 on 15.5.2013 which provides for market based pricing. All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the first schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control.