

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1404  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014  
PRICES OF PATENTED AND IMPORTED DRUGS  
Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of exorbitant prices of patented and imported medicines used for the treatment of diseases like cancer etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the mechanism put in place to monitor/control/ regulate the prices of patented/imported drugs in the country;
- (d) whether control over the prices of such medicines are outside the purview of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken by the Government to control the prices of imported and patented medicines?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (e) Patented drugs are not part of the National List of Essential Medicines(NLEM), 2011 and, are not included in the First Schedule of Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), 2013 as per the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012. However, all imported drugs which are included in the First Schedule of DPCO, 2013 are subject to the provisions of Drug Price Control Order, 2013 and are under price control. The ceiling prices fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for 489 NLEM medicines under DPCO includes 47 anti-cancer medicines. No person is authorized to sell any scheduled formulations including imported medicines used for cancer disease to any consumer at a price exceeding the ceiling price fixed by the NPPA.