

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:128

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014

ESSENTIAL MEDICINES AND FORMULATIONS

Basheer Shri E. T. Mohammed;Patil Shri A.T. (Nana)

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to broaden the mandate of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and include all the 348 essential medicines and 680 formulations listed by the Department of Pharmaceuticals under its ambit;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the details of action being taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether a number of life saving and other patent/branded drugs including those for treatment of cancer, AIDS, diabetes etc. are outside the ambit of the above authority and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to include such drugs under its fold and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.128 for answer on 02/12/2014 regarding Essential Medicines and Formulations

(a) and (b): Government of India notified Drugs (Price Control) Order 2013 (DPCO 2013) on 15.5.2013. As per DPCO 2013, 680 medicines based on 348 bulk drugs / active pharmaceutical ingredients with specified dosage and strength are contained in Schedule I and the prices of these formulations are fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) as per the provisions contained in DPCO 2013.

(c) and (d): NPPA is authorized to fix the prices of drugs contained in the National List of Essential Medicines and included in the first schedule of DPCO 2013. The prices fixed by NPPA are applicable to both branded as well as generic versions of the drug. Patented drugs enjoy market exclusivity till their patent is valid. The NPPA has already fixed prices of 47 medicines of Cancer, 19 of AIDS and 3 of Diabetes which are part of Schedule-I of DPCO 2013.