

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3305

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014

MEDICAL DEVICES AND EQUIPMENTS

Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran;Singh Shri Abhishek

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of high and rising prices of medical devices and equipments, including those used for dental care in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up medical technology parks to encourage domestic manufacturing of medical devices and equipments and reduce the proportion of imports, thereby reducing the cost of dental care;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to regulate the high price of medical devices and equipments in the market and protect the consumers being overcharged by the hospitals/companies for the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) & (b): The pricing of drugs including notified devices is regulated by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals. That Department has informed that reports have been appearing in the print media that the medical devices are sold at exorbitant prices with high profit/ trade margin particularly in cases of cardiac stents, orthopedic implants etc.

(c) & (d): The Department of Pharmaceuticals is responsible to examine and take steps to encourage domestic manufacturing of medical devices and equipment and reduce the proportion of imports. That Department has also constituted a Task Force on 31st October, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Pharmaceuticals) with representatives from all concerned Departments/ Institutions and Industry Associations to examine the matter.

(e): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority monitors/ regulates the prices of drugs and medical devices and also continues to review the same in consultation with the manufacturers/ importers.