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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Kerala to open fair price shops for sale of medicines to poor and also check the high price of essential life-saving drugs in the country.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): It is a matter of concern that the prices of essential life saving drugs for the treatment of diseases like cancer and cardiac have risen sharply hitting the public adversely particularly to the poor in the country. It has been reported that medicines for treating cancer, nephrology, urology and cardio vascular diseases are being sold even 15 times higher than their market price. This trend has been noticed in my State Kerala. The state Government of Kerala has already taken steps to contain the prices of essential life saving drugs and has decided to sell these drugs through Government outlets in order to give relief to the poor who are in need of these medicines. But for this, the Government of Kerala needs financial assistance in order to make this scheme viable.

I request the Central Government to take effective steps in order to check the runaway prices of essential life saving drugs for the benefits of the poor people who are in need of these life saving drugs and also to provide financial assistance to the Government of Kerala for opening of outlets.