

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3065  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**Price hike of medicines**

**3065 Dr. Amar Patnaik:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether drug pricing authority has allowed a price hike of 10.7 per cent for scheduled drugs which are under price control on 28th March 2022;
- (b) if so, how many drugs have witnessed the hike in the price;
- (c) whether the hike in price of scheduled medicines is also applicable for drugs at the Jan Aushadhi Kendras established under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP); and
- (d) if not, the measures taken to retain the price of medicines selling in these Kendras under PMBJP after this hike?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

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(a) and (b): The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals revised the ceiling price of 898 scheduled formulations upwards by 10.76607%, effective from 01.04.2022, based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for all commodities during the calendar year 2021 over the corresponding period in 2020, as per the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). However, increase in the prices of these drugs by the manufacturers is based on commercial consideration and may be lower or same as permissible increase depending on the market dynamics.

(c) and (d): All manufacturers of scheduled medicines, including those sold through Jan Aushadhi Kendras, have to sell the same within the ceiling price (as revised from time to time, including based on WPI). Further, Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) ensures that the prices of medicines sold through the Kendras are at least 50% cheaper than that of branded medicines available in the open market.

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