

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3381
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST APRIL, 2025

Increase in price of non-stent components

3381 Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of a report of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) indicating that many institutions increased the price of non-stent components to compensate for their post-price cap losses;
- (b) if so, the details of the action that has been initiated to make healthcare institutions adhere to the cap on coronary stents;
- (c) the reasons for the inflated bills as per the findings of NPPA and the manner in which those loopholes were plugged; and
- (d) whether there is a mechanism in NPPA to monitor the healthcare institutions to check the violations in pricing, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) issued a notification dated 12.2.2018, requiring that institutions such as hospitals, nursing homes and clinics performing angioplasty procedures using coronary stents who bill patients directly shall comply with the ceiling prices notified in the notification and follow applicable provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). Further, the said notification also requires such institutions to specifically and separately mention in their estimate / proforma invoice / final billing, etc. the cost of the coronary stents, its category like bare-metal stent (BMS) or drug-eluting stent (DES), brand name, name of the manufacturer / importer / batch number / specifications and other details.

With regard to price of non-stent components, it is informed that, keeping in view the fact that cardiac catheters are necessarily used during angioplasties and are an integrated part of the angioplasty package by healthcare institutions performing angioplasty, in order to bring greater transparency in billing and monitoring of compliance with the maximum retail prices (MRPs) fixed by NPPA under DPCO, 2013, the aforesaid notification additionally requires that such institutions also mention the cost of cardiac catheters, balloon catheter and guide wire (non-stent components) separately along with their respective brand name, if any, the name of the company, the batch number and specifications.

With regard to the issue of institutions increasing the price of non-stent components, action initiated to make them adhere to price cap and the manner of plugging any loophole in this regard, it is informed that manufacturers and marketers of non-stent components such as balloon catheters etc. that are non-scheduled medical devices under DPCO, 2013 are required to not increase their MRP by more than 10% during the preceding 12 months.

With regard to the mechanism in NPPA to monitor to check violations in pricing, NPPA monitors Form VI submitted by importers and manufacturers, wherein they report the MRP of medical devices.
