

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3484
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01ST APRIL, 2025**

**ACT FOR PRIVATE DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS TO PRESCRIBE GENERIC
DRUGS**

3484. SHRI SANJAY YADAV:

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

- (a) whether Government has done any research or survey to recognise how much extra a common citizen pays for medicines compared to the actual manufacturing cost of the same medicine;
- (b) if so, the details of the inferences obtained by such survey or report; and
- (c) whether Government can make it an Act for private doctors and hospitals to prescribe generic drugs to bring relief to crores of impoverished citizens everyday?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): As per information received from Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), no such survey/research has been conducted by DoP. National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP, 2012) and the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) mandates the regulation of prices of formulations on the basis of market based pricing as against the cost-based pricing under DPCO, 1995.

(c): Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 prescribes that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drug. Registered Medical Practitioners have been directed from time to time to comply with the aforesaid provisions. States have also been advised to ensure prescription of generic drugs and conduct regular prescription audits in public health facilities.

The Directorate General of Health Services has directed all Central Government hospitals to prescribe generic medicines only. Similar instructions also have been issued to 'prescribe drugs with generic name legibly' to all CGHS Doctors and Wellness Centres.

Under free drug initiative of National Health Mission (NHM), financial support is provided for provision of essential generic drugs free of cost in public health facilities.
