GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2543

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1st August, 2017

Price Cap on Medical Devices

2543. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently updated the list of medical devices with price caps and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether orthopaedic implants and catheters are included in the revised list and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is planning to include more medical devices under the National List of Essential Medicines and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor whether the price capping system is functioning properly and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): There are 23 medical devices notified as drugs under Drugs and Cosmetics Act. Government caps the price of only those drugs which have been included in the Schedule-I of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO), 2013. Department of Pharmaceuticals included coronary stents in Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 vide notification dated 21.12.2016. Presently only 4 devices viz. cardiac stents, drug eluting stents, condoms and intra uterine devices are under price control. The remaining 19 medical devices including orthopaedic implants and catheters, are non-scheduled formulations as per the DPCO, 2013 and manufacturers of these 19 devices are not allowed to increase their prices by more than 10% yearly.

(c): No Madam.

(d): National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) allows annual revision in the prices of scheduled medical devices to the extent of change in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the particular year. The permissible increase in the MRP of non-scheduled medical devices is not more than ten percent of MRP during preceding twelve months. Thus, NPPA monitors the prices of notified medical devices and takes action against companies found overcharging the consumers.

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