

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 473
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th February, 2018

Drug Price Rise

†473. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

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

- (a) the details of the rise in price of various drugs, specially life saving drugs during each of the last three years and the current year, as on date and the reasons for the rise in price of such drugs;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to check price rise of drugs, specially life saving drugs in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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): As per provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013), the annual upward/downward revision in the prices of scheduled formulations is permissible to the extent of increase/decrease in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the scheduled formulations and upto 10 percent for non-scheduled formulations. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) revised the ceiling prices in respect of scheduled drugs after incorporating WPI @ 3.849% for the year 2014 (w.e.f. 01.04.2015) and 1.97186% for the year 2016 (w.e.f. 01.04.2017). NPPA has also notified the revised ceiling prices of scheduled formulations for the year 2015 after applying WPI of (Minus) 2.7105%.

(c) & (d): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is monitoring the prices of scheduled as well as non-scheduled medicines under DPCO, 2013 so that these formulations are available to public at ceiling prices notified and increase in price is limited to the provisions of DPCO, 2013. It takes action against companies found overcharging the consumers based on the references received from the State Drugs Controllers / individuals, samples purchased from the open market and reports from market based data and complaints reported through the grievance redressal websites, 'Pharma Jan Samadhan' and 'Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)'.

The monitoring of increase in the price of formulations beyond the permissible limit is also done on the basis of market data submitted by All Indian Origin Chemists & Distributors Limited (AIOCD) (Pharma Trac Data) and individual complaints received. NPPA initiates action against manufacturers which have overcharged patients. In the last three years, demand notices have been issued as follows:

Year	Number of cases	Demanded Amount (Figure in Crores)
2014-15	129	581.08
2015-16	264	931.18
2016-17	138	334.00
2017-18(upto 31.12.2017)	189	675.41
