

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5177
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th March, 2018

Regulatory Changes in Pharma Sector

5177. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposed dramatic changes to regulations that keep a check on prices of medicines and medical devices in order to prevent profiteering and deliver affordable healthcare to patients.
- (b) whether the Government has drafted a new pharmaceutical policy that proposes to balance the need for price control over medicines with the Union Government's push for ease of business and Make in India programme; and
- (c) 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): The National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy (NPPP), 2012 was notified on 7th December, 2012, with the objective to put in place a regulatory framework for pricing of drugs so as to ensure availability of required medicines – “essential medicines” at reasonable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of pharma industry, thereby meeting the goals of employment and shared economic well-being for all. Subsequent to this the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO-2013) was notified to implement the objectives outlined in the NPPP, 2012. DPCO contain adequate provisions to control the prices of medicines in the country. Whenever some difficulties arise, these provisions are amended keeping in view the interest of the patients.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. With the holistic vision of ensuring accessibility and affordability of drugs and contributing to the ease of doing business in the pharma sector, thereby giving an impetus to the ‘Make in India’ programme, the Government has formulated a draft National Pharmaceutical Policy with the following objectives:

- Making essential drugs accessible at affordable prices to the common masses;
- Providing a longer term stable policy environment for the Pharmaceutical sector;
- Making India sufficiently self-reliant in end-to-end indigenous drug manufacturing;
- Ensuring world class quality of drugs for domestic consumption & exports;
- Creating an environment for R&D to produce innovator drugs;
- Ensuring growth and development of the Indian Pharma Industry.