

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1591  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019

**Price Check by NPPA**

**1591. SHRI D.K. SURESH:**

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

- (a) the details of the measures taken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to check the prices of drugs under the Drugs Prices Control Order;
- (b) the number of cases where prices rose beyond the permissible limits; and
- (c) the impact of price rise on supply and production of drugs in the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)**

---

(a) The Following measures have been taken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to check the prices of drugs under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO):

(i) After inclusion of National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011 in the Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013, NPPA fixed the ceiling prices of 530 scheduled formulations.

(ii) Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 was amended by adopting NLEM, 2015. Accordingly, NPPA fixed the ceiling prices of 857 scheduled formulations.

(iii) The ceiling prices of Coronary Stent were notified in February, 2017 resulting into reduction in price up to 85%.

(iv) NPPA has fixed the ceiling prices of the Orthopedic Knee Implants in August, 2017 under para 19 of DPCO, 2013, resulting in to reduction in price up to 69%.

(v) NPPA capped the maximum retail price of 106 formulations (anti-diabetic and cardiovascular) under para 19 of DPCO, 2013 in July, 2014.

(vi) Further, NPPA capped the prices of 42 non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines under 'Trade Margin Rationalization' approach. Accordingly, MRP of 526 brands of these medicines have shown reduction up to 90%.

(vii) The price fixation measures have resulted in savings to the patients, as tabulated below:

Particulars	Saving to consumer (Rs. in Crores)
Under NLEM 2011 from May, 2013 to Feb, 2016	2,422
Under NLEM 2015 from March, 2016 to till date	2,644
Cardio vascular and Anti-diabetic medicines	350
Coronary Stents	4,547
Knee Implants	1,500
Anti-Cancer Drugs	984
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,447</b>

(b): Since inception of NPPA till May, 2019, 2033 demand notices have been issued to pharmaceutical companies for overcharging.

(c): As per DPCO, 2013, price rise beyond permissible limit are not allowed and therefore has no correlation with supply and production of drugs.

\*\*\*\*\*