

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1766
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd July, 2019

Capping of Price

1766. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether measures have been taken to cap highly priced medicines for treatment of cancer and other rare diseases and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to introduce a National Rare Disease Policy to ensure true affordability through price control; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), vide order SO 1041(E) dated 27th February, 2019 put a cap on Trade Margin of 42 select non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines under 'Trade Margin Rationalisation' Approach. By this approach the MRP of 526 brands of these medicines have shown reduction upto 90%. This move will result in an annual savings of around Rs. 984 crore to the patients.

(b) & (c): The National Policy for Treatment of Rare Diseases, 2017 was formulated by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. However, owing to implementation challenges, it has been decided to reframe the policy and pending reframing of the policy, the National Policy for Treatment of Rare Diseases, 2017 has been kept in abeyance. An Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services (DGHS) has been constituted to review the National Policy for Treatment of Rare Diseases, 2017.
