

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1237
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th February, 2024

Sale of Medicines at Inflated Rates

1237. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:

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

- (a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has conducted any surprise checks in corporate hospitals across the country to check the sale of medicines at inflated rates;
- (b) if so the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

(a) to (c): No. However, to ensure that the medicines are made available to the patients at the notified price including in all the hospitals in the country, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals works closely with the State Drugs Controllers and Price Monitoring Resource Units (PMRUs) for enforcement activities. Samples of medicines are picked up from the open market including the pharmacies located in hospital premises regularly and are analyzed to monitor the price at which the medicines are sold to patients. Whenever any case of overcharging is come to the notice of NPPA based on the references received from the State Drugs Controllers /PMRUs individuals, samples purchased by NPPA from the open market, complaints reported through the 'Pharma Jan Samadhan', etc., the matter is examined by NPPA. If sufficient information indicating overcharging is found, overcharging proceedings are initiated against the concerned manufacturing/marketing company.
