

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *39
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4th February, 2020

Anti-diabetic and Cardiac Care Drugs

***39. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:**

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

- (a) whether as per a market research the sale of anti-diabetic and cardiac care drugs in India in 2019 grew at the fastest rate during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such increase;
- (c) whether India is home to one of the largest number of diabetes patients in the world, while heart diseases are one of the biggest causes of death in the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps regarding production of such drugs and checking the overcharging by the pharmaceutical companies in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to bring all such drugs under the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to regulate and put a check on the pricing of the said drugs?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *39 for answer on 04/02/2020 regarding Anti-diabetic and Cardiac Care Drugs.

(a) & (b): According to market research organization All Indian Origin Chemists & Distributors Limited (AIOCD) - Advanced Working, Action & Correction System (AWACS), Anti-diabetic medicine sales rose 12.6% year-on-year, with a new class of drugs called SGLT2 (sodium-glucose co-transporter 2) inhibitors driving growth, while cardiac care drugs rose 11.7%. Among cardiac medicines, it was the combination drug of sacubitril and valsartan that led sales growth.

The growth in Anti-diabetic medicines was 13.4%, 12.9% & 12.6% for year 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively on year to year basis. Further, the growth in Cardiac Care medicines was 5.5%, 10.7% & 11.7% for year 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively on year to year basis.

(c): Yes, Sir. India is home to one of the largest number of diabetes patients in the world estimated to be over 70 million, while heart diseases are known to be one of the biggest causes of death in the country.

(d): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) monitors the prices of both scheduled and non-scheduled formulations (including Anti-diabetic and Cardiac Care formulations) on regular basis to check overcharging by pharmaceutical companies. Whenever companies are found to be overcharging the consumer in sale of medicine, NPPA issues notices to the companies to deposit the overcharged amount along with applicable interest under section 7A of Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

NPPA has detected and issued about 162 demand notices against the pharmaceutical companies for overcharging consumers on the sale of Anti-diabetic and Cardiac Care formulations whose prices were fixed under para 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). Demand Notices have been issued for total amount of Rs. 808.16 crore and an amount of Rs. 245.96 crore has been recovered from the Pharma Companies for violation of price fixed under para 19. The company wise detailed list of overcharging cases for violation of ceiling price and price fixed under para 19 (Anti-diabetic and Cardiac Care formulations) where demand notices have been issued is available on NPPA's website www.nppaindia.nic.in.

(e): NPPA has fixed the ceiling price of 860 formulations included in Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 which also includes medicines relating to treatment of diabetes and cardiac problems as detailed below:

S. No.	Particulars	Medicines in NLEM,15	No. of Formulations (Prices fixed by NPPA)
1	Anti-diabetic Medicines	6	12
2	Cardiac Medicines	30	70

NPPA has also capped the prices of 106 formulations related to treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases under para 19 of DPCO, 2013 vide order dated 10th July, 2014.

Also, NPPA has fixed the price of coronary stents vide order dated 13th February, 2017. By this, the price for coronary stents was reduced upto 85% for Bare Metal stents and 74% for Drug Eluting Stents. This has resulted in saving of Rs. 4547 crore annually to the consumers/patients.

Further, NPPA monitors the prices of non-scheduled formulations as per para 20 of DPCO, 2013 so that their MRP does not increase by more than 10% of MRP during preceding 12 months.