

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 244
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4th February, 2020

Hike in Price by NPPA

244. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has hiked the ceiling price of 12 essential first line treatment drugs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said move is crucial in the public health programme in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any serious steps in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has received applications for upward price revision under para 19 of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) citing various reasons like increase in Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) cost, increase in cost of production, exchange rates etc. resulting in unviability in sustainable production and marketing of the drugs. Based on the recommendation of Standing Committee on Affordable Medicines and Health Products (SCAMHP), ceiling price of shortlisted 21 scheduled formulations of 12 medicines were revised by allowing one time price increase of upto 50% from the present ceiling price in public interest as an exceptional measure by invoking para 19 of DPCO, 2013.

(b): The detail of price revision is as below:

Sl. No .	Name of the Scheduled Formulation	Dosage form & Strength	Unit	Revised Ceiling Price (Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	BCG vaccine		Each Dose	8.75
2.	Benzathine benzylpenicillin	Powder for Injection 12 lac units	Each Pack	17.84
3.	Benzathine benzylpenicillin	Powder for Injection 6 lac units	Each Pack	11.81
4.	Benzyl penicillin	Powder for Injection 10 Lac Units	Each Pack	7.64

5.	Chloroquine	Tablet 150mg	1 Tablet	1.16
6.	Dapsone	Tablet 100 mg	1 Tablet	0.35
7.	Furosemide	Tablet 40 mg	1 Tablet	0.74
8.	Furosemide	Injection 10mg/ml	1 ml	2.43
9.	Metronidazole	Oral Liquid 200 mg/5ml	1 ml	0.44
10.	Metronidazole	Tablet 200 mg	1 Tablet	0.68
11.	Metronidazole	Tablet 400 mg	1 Tablet	1.25
12.	Metronidazole	Injection 500mg/100ml	1 ml	0.20
13.	Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)	Tablet 500 mg	1 Tablet	1.34
14.	Co-trimoxazole (Sulphamethoxazole (A)+Trimethoprim (B))	Tablet 400 mg(A)+80 mg(B)	1 Tablet	0.77
15.	Co-trimoxazole (Sulphamethoxazole (A)+Trimethoprim (B))	Tablet 800 mg(A)+160 mg(B)	1 Tablet	1.98
16.	Co-trimoxazole (Sulphamethoxazole (A)+Trimethoprim (B))	Oral Liquid 200mg(A)+40mg(B)/5 ml	1 ml	0.32
17.	Pheniramine	Injection 22.75 mg/ml(10ml pack)	1 ml	1.67
18.	Pheniramine	Injection 22.75 mg/ml (2ml pack)	1 ml	2.24
19.	Prednisolone	Drops 1%	1 ml	4.92
20.	Clofazimine	Capsule 50 mg	1 Capsule	2.13
21.	Clofazimine	Capsule 100 mg	1 Capsule	3.63

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. It was noted that the twenty one scheduled formulations considered for upward price revision under para 19 of DPCO, 2013 are low priced drugs and have been under repeated price control. Most of these drugs are used as first line of treatment and are crucial to the public health program of the country. Many companies have applied for discontinuation of the product on account of unviability.

(e): In view of reply at (c) & (d) above, the occasion does not arise.
