

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1416
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th September, 2020

Sale of Drugs at Higher Price

**†1416. SHRIMATI RATHVA GITABEN VAJESINGBHAI:
SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BHABHOR:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any information regarding pharma companies which are selling medicines at prices higher than the price fixed by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the NPPA has taken any action or issued notices against such companies; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) monitors the prices of both scheduled and non-scheduled formulations on regular basis to check overcharging by pharmaceutical companies. Whenever companies are found to be overcharging consumer in the sale of medicine, the NPPA issues notices to the companies asking them to deposit the overcharged amount along with applicable interest under provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO) read with section 7A of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(b): The NPPA does not maintain state-wise record of overcharging by pharmaceutical companies. However, the detailed list of overcharging cases where demand notices have been issued is available on the NPPA's website www.nppaindia.nic.in.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Since inception of the NPPA till March, 2020, NPPA has issued 2086 demand notices to pharmaceutical companies for overcharging consumers on the sale of formulations at prices above the ceiling price notified by NPPA. Demand Notices have been issued for total amount of Rs. 6411.28 crore. An amount of Rs. 965.81 crore has been recovered from the Pharma Companies. An amount of Rs. 4081.93 crore is under litigation. The detailed list of overcharging cases where demand notices have been issued is available on the NPPA's website www.nppaindia.nic.in.
