

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4456
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd March, 2021

Price of Covid-19 Vaccines

4456. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed the price of Covid-19 vaccines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the actual production cost of Covid-19 vaccines produced by various pharmaceutical companies;
- (d) whether the Covid-19 vaccines are made available in the domestic market with the same price and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any details regarding the number of covid-19 vaccines available in the international market; and
- (f) if so, the details including the price of each vaccine available in the international markets along with the country of origin?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals fixes the ceiling price of scheduled medicines specified in the first schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO) in accordance with the provisions of the Order. The Covid-19 vaccines have not been included in the Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013.

Further, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has informed that the COVID-19 vaccination is provided free of cost at Government COVID-19 Vaccination Centres (CVCs) and at Private CVCs, COVID-19 vaccination is available at a ceiling cost of INR 250 per dose per person (INR 150 is towards cost of vaccine and remaining INR 100 is for administration charges to be retained by the private CVC) for the prioritised categories as per the recommendation of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC).

(d): The COVID-19 vaccines are currently not authorised by the Central Drugs Control Organization (CDSCO) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for sale in open market in the country.

(e) & (f) The Department of Biotechnology has informed that the information regarding the COVID-19 vaccines in various stages of development, globally, is available in the 'COVID-19 candidate vaccine landscape and tracker database' compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO). In India, two vaccine candidates for COVID-19 have been approved for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) and about five vaccine candidates are in clinical stage of development. Further, many vaccine candidates by industry and academia are in pre-clinical and early stages of development.

Ministry of External Affairs has further informed that it has not done any survey of the price of Covid-19 vaccines in the international market and that Covid vaccines are being procured by the designated public health authorities and the beneficiaries are receiving these vaccines through mechanisms decided by these authorities.
