

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 750  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> February, 2021**

**PRIVATE HOSPITALS FOR COVID CARE**

**750. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are more patients visiting private hospitals for COVID-19 care and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is a difference between the prices charged for receiving 15 days treatment in private visà- vis Government hospitals, if so, the details of the price differences thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the manufacturers of the Tocilizumab, Remdesivir, Favipiravir drugs in India and the prices charged by these manufacturers for the above mentioned drugs;
- (d) the details of requirement and availability status of these drugs, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) whether Government has put a price cap for these drugs, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Health is a State subject. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not maintain any centralized data on patients visiting public and private hospitals for COVID-19 care.

However, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has written to all States/UTs to engage private hospitals through mutually agreeable arrangements. Rates under PM-JAY and CGHS packages have been advised. A large number of States have accordingly issued instructions to that affect.

(c): There are no indigenous manufactures of the drug Tocilizumab in India. The Drug is currently being imported in the country by M/s Roche Products (India) Pvt. Ltd.

CDSCO has granted permission to manufacture Remdesivir Injectable formulations to various manufactures as follows:

1. M/s Hetero Labs Limited
2. M/s Cipla Ltd.
3. M/s Mylan Laboratories Limited

4. M/s Jubilant Generics Limited at M/s Immacule Lifesciences Private Limited, H.P
5. M/s Dr. Reddys Laboratories Ltd.
6. M/s Cadila Healthcare
7. M/s Syngene International

CDSCO has granted permission to manufacture Favipiravir Formulations to various manufactures as follows:

1. M/s Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Limited
2. M/s Optimus Pharma Pvt. Ltd.
3. M/s BDR Pharmaceuticals International Pvt. Ltd. at M/s J. Duncan Healthcare Private Limited, Maharashtra
4. M/s Cipla Limited
5. M/s Zenara Pharma Private Limited
6. M/s Strides Pharma Science Limited
7. M/s Sun Pharmaceuticals Industries Limited
8. M/s Pure & Cure
9. M/s Hetero labs
10. M/s MSN Laboratories
11. M/s Precise Biopharm
12. M/s Macleods Pharma
13. M/s Lee Pharma
14. M/s Synokem Pharma
15. M/s Synmedic Pharma
16. M/s Mascot Health

Some of the manufactures have more than one manufacturing site.

(d): Data on availability of individual drugs is not maintained Centrally.

In the initial part of the pandemic, taking cognizance of reports of shortages, the CDSCO requested all the State Drugs Controllers to keep a strict vigil on the illegal sale to prevent black marketing along with other measures. Subsequently, with increase in supply of the drug by more number of manufacturers, as stated above, the situation has improved.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has not received any reports of shortage recently.

(e): Drug Tocilizumab has been included under in the National COVID-19 treatment management protocol (available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/UpdatedClinicalManagementProtocolforCOVID19dated03072020.pdf>) as an investigational therapy only to be used in a defined subgroup of patients, with moderate disease with progressively increasing oxygen requirements and in mechanically ventilated patients not improving despite use of steroids.

The drug Favipiravir has not been part of National COVID-19 treatment management protocol.

Further these drugs are also not included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM). Therefore National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has not put a price cap for these drugs.