

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1194
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27th July, 2021

Affordable Medical Devices

**1194. SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:
SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide affordable medical devices/equipments and surgical items in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to make surgical items affordable in the country;
- (c) whether the Department of Pharmaceuticals has launched any Umbrella Scheme in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress regarding the implementation of the said Scheme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) and (b) :The Government has taken various measures to provide affordable medical devices/equipments and surgical items to the citizens in the country.

With an objective of making quality generic medicines, surgicals & consumables available at affordable prices to all the citizens, especially to the poor and the deprived ones, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals. Under the scheme, more than 7,900 dedicated outlets known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) have been opened in all the districts of the country. The product basket of PMBJP presently comprises of 1,451 medicines and 204 surgicals & consumables.

Further, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals has fixed the ceiling prices of the Coronary Stents and Knee Implants under Para 19 of the DPCO, 2013 vide Notifications dated 13th Feb 2017 and 16th August 2017 respectively in the larger public interest. Further, NPPA has extended ceiling price of four medical devices, which have been included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) and in Schedule-I of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013(DPCO, 2013), viz., Cardiac Stents, Drug Eluting Stents, Condoms and Intra Uterine Devices (Cu-T).

Recently, NPPA invoked Paragraph 19 of the DPCO, 2013 to regulate the price of Oxygen Concentrators vide Notification dated 03.06.2021, and prices of (i) Pulse Oximeter, (ii) Blood Pressure Monitoring Machine, (iii) Nebulizer, (iv) Digital Thermometer, and (v) Glucometer under 'Trade Margin Rationalisation' Approach vide Notification dated 13.07.2021, in view of the extraordinary circumstances arising due to COVID pandemic and with the aim of making these medical devices affordable during the evolving pandemic.

NPPA also monitors prices of 28 notified medical devices under compulsory licensing framework under Para 20 of the DPCO, 2013 to ensure their MRP is not increased more than 10% in preceding twelve months.

(c) & (d): As part of the Umbrella Scheme on 'Development of Pharmaceutical Industry', there is a sub-scheme, viz., 'Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Promoting Domestic Manufacturing of Medical Devices' with an outlay of Rs. 3,420 cr. to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the Medical Devices Sector. Under the Scheme, financial incentive is given to the selected companies at the rate of 5% on incremental sales of medical devices manufactured. Under the Scheme, 13 applications have been approved with a total Committed Investment of Rs.798.93 crore. Another sub-scheme under the Umbrella Scheme for 'Promotion of Medical Device Parks' with an outlay of Rs. 400 cr. provides support for creation of common infrastructure facilities to provide easy access to standard testing and infrastructure facilities through creation of world class common infrastructure facilities for medical devices.
