GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3485
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th August, 2021

Price of Generic Drugs

3485. SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:

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

(a) whether the Government has introduced generic drugs in the country;
(b) if so, whether the prices of generic drugs are cheaper than other drugs available in the open market with the same composition;
(c) the reasons behind the price variation of the same products;
(d) whether the Government proposes to fix the price by "one product-one price" method in the country; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes Sir. The generic medicines, along with branded ones, are available in the country, subject to compliance to provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder. Central Drugs Standards Control Organization (CDSCO) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the State Drug Controllers grants necessary permissions in this regard.

(b) & (c): Both generic and branded drugs are treated alike for fixation of ceiling price under provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO). As per provisions of DPCO, all manufacturers of scheduled medicines (branded or generic) have to sell their products within the ceiling price fixed by the Government. As regards non-scheduled formulations, whether branded or generic, manufacturers are free to fix their Maximum Retail Price (MRP), but are not allowed to increase the price by more than 10 % per annum during what was prevailing in the preceding 12 months. While the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals fixes and monitor the prices of scheduled medicines, it monitors the same in case of non-scheduled medicines.

(d) and (e): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

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