

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3338  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05<sup>th</sup> August, 2022

**Price of Life Saving Drugs**

**3338. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has reduced the prices of a number of life saving drugs recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the percentage decrease in prices, drug-wise;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to reduce the prices of more life saving drugs in the near future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

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(a) to (d): Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW) publishes the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), which is incorporated in the Schedule-I of the Drugs Prices Control Order (DPCO). National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals fixes the ceiling price of scheduled formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 2013. Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 was last amended by adopting NLEM, 2015 consisting of 377 medicines.

NPPA has fixed the ceiling prices of 890 scheduled formulations of medicines under NLEM, 2015 till 30.06.2022. In addition, NPPA has fixed retail price of 2,023 new drugs under DPCO, 2013. Further, NPPA has also capped the Trade Margin of non-scheduled formulations of 42 Anti-cancer medicines under 'Trade Margin Rationalization' approach as a Pilot for proof of concept, wherein price of more than 500 brands of medicines were reduced up to 90%.

The percentage reduction in prices varies based on the previous ceiling price fixation of 890 scheduled formulations. The details of price of drugs regulated by NPPA are available on its website, viz., [www.nppaindia.nic.in](http://www.nppaindia.nic.in).

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