

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1968
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2024

Price Cap on Coronary Stents

1968. Shri S Venkatesan:

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government through the revelation/report of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) indicating that many institutions increased the cost of non-stent components to compensate for their post-price cap losses;
- (b) if so, the details of the action that has been initiated to make private hospitals adhere to the cap on coronary stents;
- (c) the reasons for the inflated bills as per the findings of NPPA and the manner in which those loopholes were plugged;
- (d) whether there is a mechanism in NPPA to monitor the private hospitals to check the violations in pricing, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any study to ensure transfer of price advantages to patients on account of cap on Prices of stent; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), under Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), issued notification S.O. no. 639(E) dated 12.02.2018 whereby it was mandated that apart from the details of coronary stents, all the healthcare institutions performing angioplasty shall also mention the details of billing costs related to non-stent components like cardiac catheters, balloon catheters and guide wire separately along with name of the company, brand name, batch number and specifications in order to bring in greater transparency in the billing and for effective monitoring of the maximum retail prices (MRPs) under the relevant provisions of DPCO, 2013. Further, non-stent components such as balloon catheters, delivery catheters etc., are non-schedule medical devices and as per the provisions of the DPCO, 2013 these non-scheduled medical devices are not allowed to increase their MRP by more than 10% of the MRP during the preceding 12 months. NPPA monitors the Form V/VI filled by the importers and manufacturers, wherein, the companies report the MRP of the coronary stents.

(e) and (f): DoP commissioned a study in the year 2023, titled "Impact of the Drugs (Price Control) Order (DPCO, 2013) on the Price of Eight Medical Devices, on Industry and Consumers in Terms of Availability and Affordability". The Coronary stents were also included in the eight medical devices in this study. The study, inter alia, mentions that the fixation of ceiling prices on cardiac/coronary stents has stimulated the availability and distribution of cardiac stents, making them more accessible to patients in need.
