

scheduled drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. The NPPA monitors the prices of all formulations including imported scheduled formulations under price control. Under the DPCO, 95, no person can sell any formulation (medicine) of price controlled category to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified/approved by the NPPA/Government. In case, a company is found selling at prices higher than the price notified/approved by the NPPA, action is taken against them as per the provisions of the DPCO.

In respect of drugs — not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of Government/NPPA. Such prices are normally fixed depending on various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities/packing material, sales promotion costs, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc.

As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 95 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

Based on monitoring of prices of non-scheduled formulation, NPPA has fixed prices in case of 27 formulation packs under para 10(b) and companies have reduced price voluntarily in case of 64 formulation packs. Thus in all, prices of 91 packs of non-scheduled drugs have got reduced as a result of the intervention of NPPA.

The list of Price Controlled Drugs as contained in the First Schedule of DPCO, 95 is available in the NPPA website www.nppaindia.nic.in.

Price of vaccines offered to doctors

3091. SHRID. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

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

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a study conducted by Dr. Rakesh Lodha of the Department of Pediatrics, AIIMS and Dr. Anurag Bhargav of Jan Swasthya Sahyog in Chhattisgarh, published in a recent issue of the India Journal of Medical ethics revealing that there is huge difference in the prices of vaccines offered to doctors which indicate that there is scope for a substantial reduction in vaccine prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has a proposal to take any action to get the prices of vaccines reduced by the companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) This Ministry is not aware of such recent study conducted by Dr. Rakesh Lodha of the Department of Pediatrics, AIIMS and Dr. Anurag Bhargav of Jan Swasthya Sahyog.

Under the provisions of the Drugs (Price and Control) Order, 1995 the prices of 74 bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. NPPA/Government fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. The NPPA monitors the prices of all formulations including imported scheduled formulations under price control. Under the DPCO, no person can sell any formulation (medicine) of price controlled category to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified/approved by the NPPA/Government. In case, a company is found selling at prices higher than the price notified/approved by the NPPA/Government, action is taken against them as per the provisions of the DPCO. The Vaccines are not covered in the 74 Scheduled bulk drugs and hence are considered as non scheduled drugs/medicines.

In respect of drugs — not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of Government/NPPA. Such prices are normally fixed depending on various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities/packing material, sales promotion costs, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc.

As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

Price control mechanism for drugs

3092. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA :
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

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

(a) whether the prices of life saving drugs/medicines have increased during the recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has set up/proposes to set up any high powered committee for the review of price control mechanism of drugs; and