

Compensation to victims of Bhopal gas tragedy

†2234. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

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

(a) whether the Central Government had announced in 2010, rupees one lakh as additional compensation for the Bhopal gas tragedy victims, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the additional compensation has been provided to all the victims, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Based on the recommendation of Group of Ministers on Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster, the Cabinet on 24th June, 2010, had decided payment of *ex-gratia* to Bhopal Gas Victims under the following categories:

Category	Ex-gratia
Death	₹ 10 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Permanent disability	₹ 5 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Injury of utmost severity	₹ 5 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Cancer	₹ 2 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Total Renal Failure	₹ 2 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Temporary disability	₹ 1 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) As per the decision of the Cabinet dated 24th June, 2010, *ex-gratia* @ of ₹ 1 lakh is payable to Bhopal Gas Victims under the category of Temporary disability'. Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, Bhopal has informed that till 31st October, 2014, an amount of *ex-gratia* of ₹ 76.33 crore has been disbursed amongst 28,780 cases of victims under the category of 'Temporary disability'. Victims under the category of 'Minor Injury', who had earlier received original compensation @ of ₹ 25,000/- and an equal amount as pro-rata compensation, were not covered under the Cabinet decision on *ex-gratia*.

Policy to reduce prices of drugs

2235. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production cost of decontrolled medicines is manifold higher than the controlled medicines, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any policy to reduce the prices of drugs of cancer, AIDS and other life saving drugs, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The information related to production cost of medicines both controlled and decontrolled, is not maintained with NPPA.

(c) Yes, Sir. All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the first schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. Out of 680 essential medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, which also includes the drugs used for treatment of cancer, AIDS and other essential medicines, NPPA has already fixed prices of 47 medicines for cancer and 19 for AIDS.

Out of total 680 medicines (628 net medicines) under price controlled category of DPCO, 2013, NPPA has already notified the ceiling prices in respect of 489 medicines till date, under provisions of the said Order. Significant reduction in prices have been effected on the medicines notified under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price which prevailed prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013. The details of price reduction are as follows: