

particular station or are you talking generally, all over the country? So, we will, definitely, look into it because there are some model stations which are going to be developed. We will, definitely, consider this.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Railway Minister whether you have any policy where the State Government sanctions the amount and decide about a bridge to be constructed as an overbridge over the railways. And, when it comes to the Railways, it takes a back seat. For one reason or the other, decision is postponed resulting into the enhancement of price, the cost sanctioned by the Government. I can give you the example of Lucknow, where there is a very important railway station, Amausi, which is just opposite Amausi Airport. For the last three years, the matter has been coming to railways and going back on certain technical objections, now this side and now that side. The Government is ready to give money, but you are delaying it on these technical grounds. How do you deal with it? What is your proposal for this?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I will first tell you exactly what this MoU is about, because, essentially, the original question was about the MoU. The MoU says that there is a Research Design and Standards Organisation of the Railways, which has now put on website a standard design of so many ROB and RUBs that can be constructed. So, the National Highways Authority, NHDP as well as the Ministry of Road Transport could construct the bridges in accordance with those designs, without seeking any additional permission which otherwise would have been taken from the Railways. So, it used to take two-and-a-half years, at least, or one year to two-and-a-half years, for any project to be sanctioned. Now, this could happen in sixty days. So, my suggestion would be that if the U.P. Government and the Railways could work together on similar MoU, bridges can be constructed in the standard design and the delay that you are talking about of a year and two years could definitely be reduced.

But as far as this particular bridge is concerned, I will definitely look into it.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Four years have passed.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Yes, I will definitely look into it.

Decontrol of drug prices

*82. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has decontrolled prices of 108 drugs used to treat tuberculosis, AIDS, diabetes and heart ailments and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the prices of these drugs have increased manifold since then;

(c) whether the price of Glivec, an anti-cancer tablet has risen from ₹8,500 to ₹1.08 lakh after the decontrol; and

(d) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to check increase in prices of drugs used to treat tuberculosis, AIDS, diabetes and heart ailments; and

(e) the total number of patients in the country suffering from diabetes, coronary heart diseases, TB, cancer and HIV/AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) *vide* price notifications dated 10.07.2014 capped the MRP of 108 non-scheduled single ingredient drug formulations related to treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. Out of 108 medicines, only 2 notifications were withdrawn because they were already covered as scheduled medicines. A large number of manufacturers have already implemented the price reduction and the price notifications of 10.07.2014 issued by the NPPA are valid and still in operation.

(c) No, Sir. Glivec consisting of Imatinib 400mg drug is a scheduled formulation under DPCO, 2013. As per the price list in Form-V of DPCO, 2013 submitted by the company Glivec is sold at ₹8,452.38 for 30 tabs, which is in conformity with the ceiling price notified for this drug formulation.

(d) There are 680 essential medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, which also includes the drugs used to treat tuberculosis, AIDS, diabetes and heart ailments. Ceiling price for 489 medicines have been fixed under provision of DPCO, 2013. No person is authorized to sell any such formulation to any consumer at a price higher than that fixed by NPPA.

(e) T.B : According to WHO Global TB Report, 2014, the estimated prevalence of TB patients in India in the year 2013 was 2.6 million (range 1.8 to 3.7 million).

In the context of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke (NPCDCS) it is stated that disease wise, year wise & State/UT-wise data on burden of lifestyle diseases is not maintained centrally. However, as per reports of different cross sectional studies, an increase in prevalence of these diseases as well as mortalities has been reported in the country. For instance, as per study on Cancer under the National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) the prevalence of Cancer is estimated at about 30 lakh cases in 2014. According to a report published by International Diabetes Federation (IDF) (the 6th edition of IDF Atlas Published in November, 2013) the number of diabetic patients is about 65 million in the country.

HIV/AIDS : The total number of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) registered in active care at Anti-Retroviral Therapy Centres (ARTC) across the country are 10.98 lakhs. (8.12 lakh in ART treatment and 2.85 lakh on Pre ART care). However it is estimated that there are around 20.88 lakh people infected in India as per HIV estimation of 2011.

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में जानकारी दी है कि एनपीपीए ने दिनांक 10 जुलाई, 2014 की मूल्य अधिसूचना के तहत मधुमेह जैसे रोगों के उपचार से संबंधित 108 गैर-अनुसूचित एकल घटक औषध फार्मूलेशन के अधिकतम खुदरा मूल्य की ऊपरी सीमा तय की है और आपने यह जानकारी भी दी कि बड़ी संख्या में मैन्थूफैक्वरर्स ने मूल्यों में कमी पहले ही लागू कर दी है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि फर्स्टली जिन मैन्थूफैक्वरर्स ने मूल्यों में कमी की है, उनकी संख्या कितनी है और उनका विवरण भी दिया जाए। सैकिंडली...

श्री सभापति: एक सवाल, प्लीज।

श्री अनंत कुमार : चेयरमैन सर, 28 मैन्थूफैक्वरर्स ने मूल्यों में कमी की है और उसका पूरा विवरण मैं सभा पटल पर रख देता हूँ और माननीय सांसद को भी दे सकता हूँ।

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप : सभापति जी, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है कि क्या अभी भी ऐसे मैन्थूफैक्वरर्स हैं, जिन्होंने दवाओं की कीमतें अभी भी कम नहीं की हैं, उनकी संख्या कितनी है? उनका विवरण भी दिया जाए?

श्री अनंत कुमार : सभापति महोदय, एनपीपीए ने ऐसे 108 फॉर्मूलेशन, यानी नॉन-शेड्यूल्ड ड्रग्स के मूल्य कम किए हैं। उसके अन्तर्गत सभी मैन्थूफैक्वरर्स ने अपने दाम कम किए हैं और उसका पूरा विवरण मैं माननीय सांसद को भेज सकता हूँ।

श्री शरद यादव : माननीय सभापति जी, चारों तरफ मीडिया और अखबारों में यह मामला आ रहा है। हालांकि, मैं कभी मैडीसिन लेने नहीं जाता हूँ और न मुझे मालूम है, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी की अमरीका यात्रा से पहले, आपके डिपार्टमेंट से यह फैसला हुआ था कि जो जीवन रक्षक दवाएं हैं, जैसे कैंसर है, एड्स है, शुगर है और इस प्रकार की अन्य बीमारियों के प्रयोग में आने वाली दवाओं के दाम काफी बड़े पैमाने पर बढ़े हुए हैं, उनके दाम कम किए जाएंगे। इस बारे में सरकार की तरफ से खंडन भी आया था, लेकिन हकीकत में ऐसा नहीं हुआ। अमरीका में दो ही धंधे हैं-एक तो डिफेंस वाला और दूसरा यह दवाई वाला है।

सभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरी विनती है कि असल में, हकीकत में इतने दिनों से बात फैल रही है, तो आज इस बात को उन्हें साफ करना चाहिए कि यह कीमतों का मामला क्या है और जो जीवन रक्षक दवाएं हैं, उनकी कीमत के बारे में क्या हालत है?

श्री अनंत कुमार : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं इस प्रश्न को पूछने के लिए माननीय शरद यादव जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ, क्योंकि पिछले दिनों में हमने 44 दवाओं के दाम कम किए हैं और उन्हें ड्रग कंट्रोल प्राइस आर्डर के दायरे में लेकर आए हैं। उसके साथ जो नॉन-शेड्यूल्ड ड्रग्स हैं, उनके 108 फॉर्मूलेशन का, जिसमें कैंसर है, कार्डियोवास्कुलर डिजीज है और मधुमेह यानी डायबिटीज है, इनके इलाज में आने वाली दवाओं के दाम हमने कम किए हैं।

सभापति जी, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का अमेरिका का जो दौरा हुआ, उससे यह संबंधित नहीं था, लेकिन मैं बहुत पीड़ा के साथ इस सदन में कहना चाहता हूँ कांग्रेस के उपाध्यक्ष, माननीय* जी ने हरियाणा के एक ...(व्यवधान)...

कुमारी शैलजा : सर, ये क्या ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : मैं जवाब दे रहा हूँ । ...(व्यवधान)...

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, he cannot say this. He cannot take the name of a Member of the other House. ...(Interruptions)... This is not the way. ...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : आप यह नहीं बोल सकते । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : मुझे बोलने दीजिए । ...(व्यवधान).... उन्होंने हरियाणा की एक इलेक्शन रैली में ऐसा गलत प्रचार किया । ...(व्यवधान)...

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, this is not the way. ...(Interruptions)... This is not the way for the Minister to...(Interruptions)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : उन्होंने ऐसा गलत प्रचार किया कि भारत सरकार ने कैसर की दवाई के दाम में वृद्धि करके उसका दाम 8 हजार रुपए से 1 लाख 8 हजार रुपए किया है । यह सरासर* है, गलत है, हमने ऐसा कुछ नहीं किया है और पिछले दिनों में जो ऐसी एसेशियल ड्रग्स हैं, जीवन-रक्षक दवाइयां हैं, उनके दाम पहले से कम हुए हैं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Bhupinder Singh.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order in Question Hour.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, he has taken the name ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Names will not be taken. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सर, इन्होंने आक्षेप लगाया है और जो बात ये कह रहे हैं, इसमें* शब्द अनपार्लियामेंटरी है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The records will be examined. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सर, इन्होंने अनपार्लियामेंटरी वर्ड यूज किया है । इसे रिकॉर्ड से निकाला जाना चाहिए ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The records will be examined. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, I don't think* name is unparliamentary. ...(Interruptions)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, that is not right. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, his name itself cannot be unparliamentary. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. Let's not get into meaningless discussions.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, he is not here. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए । ...(**व्यवधान**)... एक मिनट... बैठ जाइए, बैठ जाइए । ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, please bring the House in order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a totally unnecessary kind of thing. Let us get on with the Question Hour. Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, the House is not in order. What can I say? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए... बैठ जाइए । ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : सर, पहले हाउस को ऑर्डर में लाइए । ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The records will be examined and appropriate action taken. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सर, मैंने सिर्फ परंपरा की ओर ध्यान दिलाया कि जो इस सदन का सदस्य नहीं है, उसके बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी बोल रहे हैं, इसलिए वह अनपार्लियामेंटरी है । उनकी बात अनपार्लियामेंटरी है । ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The records will be examined and appropriate action taken. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, Sharad Yadavji asked a very relevant question, saying that there has been a misinformation campaign in the country about the ...(*Interruptions*)... price rise of the various pharmaceutical formulations, especially for life-saving drugs, like those for diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and others. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. We are in the Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let the next question be asked. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: There was no connection at all with the hon. Prime Minister's US visit. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़ शर्मा जी ...(**व्यवधान**)... नहीं, नहीं, आप सब लोग बैठ जाइए । ...(**व्यवधान**)... Everybody, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I would also like to place it on record that it is the direction of the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendrabhai Modi, that drugs should be made affordable to the people of this country. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already given my ruling on this. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठ जाइए मंत्री जी । Mr. Bhupinder Singh.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, please bring the House in order. ...(Interruptions)... Let the House be in order, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ask the question. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... I have already said. ...(Interruptions)... भाई, बैठ जाइए । बैठ जाइए । ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, please ensure that the House is in order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your question. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : सर, वे उधर से बोल रहे हैं, उनको सुनेंगे आप ? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए । ...**(व्यवधान)**... भाई, प्लीज बैठ जाइए । ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Ask your question. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : चेयरमैन सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से स्पेसिफिकली जानना चाहता हूँ कि 15-16 अक्टूबर को "हिंदू" में एक न्यूज आइटम आया था कि लाइफ सेविंग इक्विपमेंट्स, जैसे कि stent, जो heart के मरीजों में लगता है, वह फॉरेन कंट्रीज में 25 हजार से 30 हजार रुपए में मिलता है, जब कि यहां वह 1 लाख 25 हजार या 30 हजार रुपए में मिल रहा है । यह इनकी नजर में जरूर आया होगा, तो इसके बारे में सरकार क्या करने जा रही है? साथ ही जो लाइफ-सेविंग ड्रग्स हैं, क्या आप उनको हर जिले के हॉस्पिटल तक पहुंचाने की कोशिश करेंगे?

श्री अनंत कुमार : एक बार फिर मैं इस सदन के समक्ष कहना चाहूंगा कि पिछले दिनों में ड्रग्स के प्राइसेज में कोई वृद्धि नहीं हुई है और यह भी अप-प्रचार हुआ था कि ग्लिवेक का दाम 8,500 रुपए से 1,08,000 रुपए हो गया था, लेकिन आज उसका दाम 8,452 रुपए है, इसलिए किसी ड्रग के दाम में पिछले 6 महीनों में कोई वृद्धि नहीं हुई है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you answered his question?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Yes, Sir. All these things are unsubstantiated.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, some hidden things are here. Actually, the Government has stated that nothing has been withdrawn. But in the affidavit submitted in the Delhi High Court, the Solicitor-General stated the price fixation of these formulas and bases, except in extraordinary circumstances and public interest for a defined period during which

extraordinary circumstances existed. The Government after careful consideration is of the opinion that the above-said internal guidelines dated 29.05.2014 are not in consonance with the provisions of para 19 of the DPCO 2013. Therefore, NPPA will withdraw the said guidelines in compliance with the directions received from the Government *vide* letter 19.09.2014 from the Department of Pharmaceuticals. These internal guidelines were withdrawn on 22nd September. Sir, then what would be the impact of the withdrawal of these internal guidelines? If these internal guidelines are not there, what is the legal validity of the existing decontrolling order in existence, or what would be the impact and would the controlling mechanism be applicable to all varieties of 108 medicines? Fifty mg is there; 100 mg is there. Does it applicable to all varieties and what would be the impact of the withdrawal of the internal guidelines?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, the Drug Price Control Order of 2013 is still valid. There is no change in that. Regarding the delegation of powers to control the essential drugs to the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, it is also answered; there is no change in that. Para 19 of DPCO which empowers the NPPA to modulate the prices of the drug of essential medicines is also there and even for non-scheduled drugs. And the Price Control Order of June 10 which pertains to these 108 formulations, especially for diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, is still in operation.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: I have asked you specifically. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I am coming to that. There is no change in that. Of course, the internal guidelines governing Para 19 of DPCO have been withdrawn for a review. It does not affect the entire drug price control regime. Therefore, even before the hon. High Court of Delhi we have filed an affidavit stating that the price notification dated 10.07.2014 has been issued for certain drugs required for treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: My question is very specific. This affidavit is in public domain. My question is: What would be the impact of the withdrawal of internal guidelines? ...(*Interruptions*)... The Minister is not willing to explain it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, I have given the answer to the House. There will be no adverse impact on the drug price control. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No discussion, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... If the answer is not right, you know the procedure. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: I want to know what is the guideline withdrawn by the Minister. What is the legal validity of other orders if the guideline is not there?

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: No guideline is withdrawn by the Ministry or the Minister. The internal guidelines that were made by the NPPA itself to govern the implementation of para 19 of DPCO is under revision. That is the thing that we have stated before the hon. Court also.

Steep rise in the prices of potato and onion

*83.SHRI ALOK TIWARI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been a steep rise in the prices of potato and onion in retail markets of the country during the last three months and has reached at ₹40 per kg which is beyond the reach of poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has ordered for import of potato from international market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the likely date by which imported potato would be available in the retail market?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) As reported from 64 centres across the country, during the last three months (September-November, 2014) the potato prices generally ranged between ₹19-38 per kg in all centres except at Aizwal, Thiruvananthapuram, and Kozhikode and onion prices ranged between ₹13-38 per kg in all centres except at Aizwal, Dimapur, Ernakulum and Kozhikode. The higher prices at the centres mentioned is mainly because they are non-producing areas and have to procure the supplies from other States.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise

श्री आलोक तिवारी : सभापति महोदय, इस साल आलू और प्याज जैसी अति आवश्यक सब्जी लगभग चालीस रुपए प्रति किलो तक रिटेल में बिकी है और अभी भी वह 35 रुपए प्रति किलो के भाव से बिक रही है। आलू और प्याज का उत्पादन करने वाला जो किसान है, वह इन सब्जियों को पैदा करने के लिए खाद, बीज, मजदूरी, पानी आदि लागत लगाने के बाद इन्हें पैदा करता है और उसके बाद बाज़ार में मात्र एक से दो रुपए किलो के भाव पर बेचने के लिए मजबूर होता है। जैसे ही यह उत्पादन उसके हाथ से निकलकर व्यापारियों के हाथ में जाता है, तब यही उत्पादन 30 से