

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reasons for compromise with poor public's health?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) No such decision has been taken.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) No such decision has been taken.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Curbing black marketing of life saving drugs

†114. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the black marketing of life-saving drugs in the country;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that the prices of cancer medicines in the country have increased eight fold since June, 2014; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to curb black marketing of life-saving drugs and cancer medicines and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare does not have any information about black marketing of drugs. However, the State Drug Controllers are empowered under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder for initiating action against such unauthorized activities.

(b) Pricing of drugs is dealt with by the Department of Pharmaceuticals. As per information provided by that Department, 51 cancer medicines are included in the scheduled category of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO) out of which National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has already notified the ceiling prices of 47 cancer medicines. No person is authorized to sell formulations at a price higher than the ceiling price of scheduled formulations fixed under DPCO, 2013. In respect of non-scheduled formulations, not covered under price control, manufacturers are not allowed to increase the price beyond the permissible limit of ten per cent on a year to year basis under the provision of DPCO, 2013.

- (c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.