

and representatives of State Government has been sensitizing and advising the State Governments for keeping strict vigil and for taking of prompt action by the State Governments to check black-marketing, diversion, smuggling and breach of MRP.

**Review of drug pricing policy**

2129. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether the controlled price of some essential medicines fixed by Central Government is four thousand per cent higher than that being provided by some States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons and rationale for the same; and

(c) whether in view of above Government would review its drug pricing policy, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The ceiling price fixed in accordance with the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013 are uniformly applied in retail marketing across the country for all medicines sold in brand name or generic name.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

**Review of drug pricing policy for essential medicines**

2130. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the drug pricing policy for essential medicines is unreasonable as the price of some medicines is around 4000 per cent higher than that fixed by some States;

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Central Government to reexamine the present drug pricing policy for essential medicines;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Central Government in this regard; and

- (e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The ceiling price fixed in accordance with the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013 are uniformly applied in retail marketing across the country for all medicines sold in brand name or generic name.

- (b) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not given any such direction. The Court in its order dated 15.07.2015, has only asked the petitioner to file their representations within six weeks and has ordered that the competent authority shall examine the same and communicate its order as early as possible but not later than six months from the date the representation is received. Till date this Department has not received any representation from the petitioner in this regard.

- (e) In view of reply to (c) and (d) above, does not arise.

#### **Pricing of drugs**

2131. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has simplified the drug pricing through a notification;
- (b) if so, the details of drugs that are going to be available at a lesser price as a result thereof;
- (c) whether the prices of life-saving drugs will also come down as a result of this; and
- (d) if so, the details of the drugs that are going to be cheaper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) Pursuant to National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy notified in December, 2012, Government has issued Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 on 15th May, 2013. Under DPCO, 2013, methodology of price fixation of scheduled drugs has been changed from 'cost based pricing' to 'market based pricing', *inter alia*, by taking simple average prices of all those manufacturers who have market share more than or equal to one per cent of total