

**Capping the prices of orthopaedic implants**

369. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to cap prices of orthopaedic implants keeping in view sharp spike in prices of these implants, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the prices increase of orthopaedic implants is less than 10 per cent annually in accordance with the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Drugs (Price Control) Order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) A meeting of Committee of Secretaries, to discuss the mechanism for a separate price control order and a separate vertical within National pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for medical devices, was held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary. After deliberation, certain decisions were taken. In pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting, the Department of Pharmaceuticals had called a meeting with the representatives of various leading manufacturers of medical devices. After detailed deliberations the following decisions were taken:—

- (i) All manufacturers of stents/implants will provide the information regarding 'Price to retailer' and 'Maximum Retail Price' in Form V appended to Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013, to NPPA positively by 30th Nov., 2015.
- (ii) In the first week of December, the manufacturers will voluntarily propose a reduction in the marketing expenses of these products and consequentially on the MRP.

The Government had taken up with the leading manufacturers of stents and implants to reduce the prices voluntarily. Subsequently, some of these companies have intimated the reduction in prices of stents and implants/joints.

(b) At present, 22 medical devices including orthopaedic implants are covered under Drugs and Cosmetic Act. As per the provision of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 2013, the manufacturers of these devices are not permitted to increase the prices of these products beyond 10% per annum.

**Penalty on service providers for call drops**

370. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that call drops in mobile telephony is a serious problem in Delhi and other places;