

and Family Welfare *vide* its Notification dated 19th July, 2016 notified inclusion of coronary stents in the National List of Essential Medicine, 2015 (NLEM 2015). Subsequently, Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) notified coronary stents as part of Schedule-1 of Drug Price Control Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 21st December, 2016 and directed National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to take necessary follow up action. As per Para 17 of the DPCO, 2013, it was obligatory on the part of NPPA to fix the prices of coronary stents within 60 days from the date of notification, *i.e.*, by 20th February, 2017. NPPA has notified the ceiling price of Coronary Stent *vide* its notification dated 13th February 2017 at INR 7,260/- for Bare Metal Stent and INR 29,600/- for Drug Eluting Stents (DES) including metallic DES and Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold (BVS)/ Biodegradable Stents. The average MRP before this notification was INR 45,100 for Bare Metal Stent (BMS) and INR 121,400 for Drug Eluting Stent (DES). As such, there was no delay in fixing the ceiling price of coronary stents.

Self-reliance in production of APIs

4047. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian pharmaceutical industry is over-dependent on pharma raw materials imported from China to meet the growing requirements of drug formulations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government has received any demand from Indian Pharmaceutical industry or any other institution for selfreliance on drug formulations, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for increasing the production of Active Pharma Ingredients (APIs) of drugs in the country by becoming self-reliant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The country is dependent on imports of bulk drugs/Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) for producing certain essential medicines from China. As India is a signatory to the WTO and TRIPs agreement, the import restrictions have been removed and imports made on economic considerations have slowly resulted in the present dependence.

(c) The country at present is self-sufficient in the manufacture of drug formulations and in most cases therapeutic equivalents for all brands for use of critical diseases like cancer, TB etc. are available. However, whenever the Government receives any

suggestions for further improvement, these are examined for future decisions. This is an ongoing process.

(d) The Government has withdrawn exemption of customs duty on certain categories of Bulk Drugs/APIs to provide a level playing field to the domestic manufacturers. Further, the Government is clearing bottlenecks like environment clearance etc. which the manufacturers are facing, in order to give a boost to domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs. However, it may be mentioned that most of the imports of the Bulk Drug/APIs being done in the country are because of economic considerations.

Capping the prices of essential medicines

4048. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put a cap on the prices of 56 vital medicines used for treatment of diabetes, blood pressure, cancer, infection, etc.;

(b) if so, the details of each medicine and the price reduced on each medicine/formulation;

(c) the list of essential medicines;

(d) whether it is a fact that there have been demands to put a cap on prices of all essential medicines; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Government has fixed the ceiling price of 12 Anti-diabetics, 59 Cardio-vascular, 62 Anti-cancer medicines (included in the revised schedule I of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013)} upto 31.3.2017.

(b) The list of all medicines for which ceiling price have been fixed under revised Schedule I of DPCO, 2013 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) The National List of Essential Medicines 2015 (NLEM-2015) is available on the website of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) *i.e. www.cdsc0.nic.in*.

(d) and (e) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is mandated to fix the ceiling prices of all NLEM medicines (scheduled medicines).NPPA has so far fixed the ceiling prices of 716 scheduled formulations/packs upto 31.3.2017.