

(c) the steps taken for import of good quality fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir. During last three years the number of non standard fertilizers ships/containers are in the range of 3-4.5% only.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The methods for analysis of various parameters of all the fertilizers have been prescribed in Schedule II of the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985, in consonance with Association of official Analytical chemist (AOAC) Method" that is internationally recognised. At present, there are four notified Central Government Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories (FQCLs), namely, Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute (CFQC&TI) and its three Regional Fertilizer Control Laboratories (RFCLs), which have been entrusted with the responsibility to check the quality of imported fertilizers. These laboratories carry out the analysis as per the methods notified in the FCO.

Slash in price of Stents

2593. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to limit the prices of stents at a reasonable rate and slashed the present prices about 85 per cent, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether NPPA has also been advised to bring out a notification in this regard;

(c) whether Government is aware that prices of stents are still very high and serious irregularities are taking place in the market; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to control the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) 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). Price regulation has brought down the prices of stents (BMS 74% and DES 85%).

(c) and (d) The ceiling prices of stents have been fixed by NPPA after taking into account the prices of various types and brands of stents prevailing in the market. Government, through NPPA, is continuously monitoring the situation.

Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy

2594. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) whether the recently released draft National Pharmaceutical Policy attempts to address the twin concerns of keeping medicines affordable and taking on board the industry concerns;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the policy moves away from cost of production based system to the more transparent market based pricing system; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) No draft National Pharmaceutical Policy has been recently released. The last Policy *i.e.* National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP, 2012) was notified on 7th December, 2012. The objective of this Policy was to put in place a regulatory framework for pricing of drugs so as to ensure availability of required medicines – “essential medicines” at reasonable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of pharma industry, thereby meeting the goals of employment and shared economic well-being for all.

(b) and (c) The NPPP, 2012 however, has moved from cost based to market based pricing. The main features of NPPP, 2012 are that it is based on essentiality and the price control is on formulations only. Further, as per this policy the price is fixed based on market data.

Setting up of clusters in Pharma Sector

2595. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has invited companies to set up pharma clusters in various parts of the country;