

### Steps to control prices of medicines and medical equipments

1320. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken some fresh initiatives to control the prices of medicines and medical equipments;

(b) if so, whether due to such initiatives the prices of several medicines has come down but many medicines have become costlier also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps being taken to control such rising prices of medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) The Government fixes the ceiling prices of those medicines which are listed in the Schedule-I of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). Till December 2017, the Government has fixed the ceiling prices of 851 medicines under Revised Schedule-I based on National List of Essential Medicines, 2015 (NLEM, 2015). The ceiling price notifications are available on the website of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) [www.nppaindia.nic.in](http://www.nppaindia.nic.in). The ceiling price fixation has resulted in substantial reduction in the prices of the Scheduled formulations as shown in the table below:—

Slab-wise Percentage reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of formulations
0<= 5%	234
5<=10%	134
10<=15%	98
15<=20%	98
20<=25%	93
25<=30%	65
30<=35%	46
35<=40%	24
Above 40%	59
Total formulations in NLEM 2015	851

According to the provisions of DPCO, 2013, Scheduled medicines are allowed annual revision of prices to the extent of change in Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and non-scheduled medicines are allowed a maximum increase of up to 10% per annum.