

2015 *vide* notification dated 19.07.2016. Subsequently, Department of Pharmaceuticals included coronary stents in schedule-1 of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO), 2013 *vide* notification dated 21.12.2016. National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) notified the ceiling price Coronary Stents *vide* notification dated 13.02.2017 at INR 7,260/- for Bare Metal Stent and INR 29,600/- for Drug Eluting Stent (DES) including metallic DES and Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold (BVS)/ Biodegradable Stents. NPPA, *vide* notification dated 12.02.2018, has revised the prices to INR 7,660/- for Bare Metal Stent (BMS) and INR 27,890/- for Drug Eluting Stent (including BVS and Biodegradable Stent) with effect from 13.02.2018. The DPCO 2013 does not differentiate between imported and domestically manufactured stents. The ceiling prices notified for coronary stents is applicable for both imported as well as indigenous coronary stents.

#### **Analysis of bills of hospitals by NPPA**

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

(a) whether Pharmaceutical sector's regulator, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), has analysed bills of some hospitals and concluded that doctors and hospitals prefer prescribing branded drugs, which are not under price control;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the NPPA has recommended any proposals to tackle with huge medical bills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on complaints and media reports on overpricing and inflated bills to the patients by some hospitals, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) had asked for details of billing from these hospitals under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). Based on the data submitted by the hospitals, NPPA has observed that the total cost on scheduled medicines used in the treatment is only 4.10% as compared to 25.67% on non-scheduled formulations. Study reports prepared on the basis of information submitted by these hospitals is available at the website of NPPA *i.e.* ([www.nppaindia.nic.in](http://www.nppaindia.nic.in)).

NPPA is effectively monitoring the prices of scheduled as well as non-scheduled medicines under DPCO, 2013 so that these formulations are available to public at ceiling prices notified and no manufacturer of non-scheduled formulations can increase more than 10% in price as per provisions of DPCO, 2013. It takes action against companies found overcharging the consumers based on the references received from the State Drugs Controllers/individuals, samples purchased from the open market, reports from market based data and complaints reported through the grievance redressal websites; 'Pharma Jan Samadhan' and 'Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)'.

(c) and (d) Public health being a State subject, the primary responsibility of management of hospitals lies with the State/Union Territory Governments. However, the National Council for Clinical Establishments, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) has approved a standard list of medical procedures and a standard template for costing of medical procedures and the same have been shared with the States for appropriate action.

#### **Benefits of subsidy on fertilizers to farmers**

†363. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are getting expected benefit of subsidy on fertilizers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether some companies manipulate to show lesser production capacity and get hefty amount of subsidy on the basis of percentage production;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that the maximum benefits of subsidies go to the poor and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Urea is sold at a Maximum Retail Price (MRP) statutorily fixed by the Government of India which is at present ₹ 5360/- per metric tone (exclusive of Central/State levies and other charges). The difference between the delivered cost of fertilizers at farm gate and net market realization by the urea units is given as subsidy to the urea manufacturer/importer by the Government of India.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.