

The details of reduction in prices of scheduled formulations effected under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 for formulation of NLEM, 2015 (Revised Schedule -1) are as follows:

Statement showing reduction in ceiling prices of scheduled formulations with respect to maximum price under NELM 2015

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of scheduled 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

(c) and (d) NPPA, as an ongoing process, fixes the ceiling prices of the formulations as and when formulations are included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).

Inclusion of orthopaedic implants in the National List of Essential Medicines

366. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Drug Controller General of India had urged the Government to consider including orthopaedic implants in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) in order to bring the products under purview of price-cap;

(b) whether Government has acted in a positive manner in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several cases of overcharging by private hospitals, nursing homes and clinics have come to the notice of the Government; and

- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government against erring institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) regulates safety, efficacy and quality of medical devices notified as Drugs under the Drugs and Cosmetics (D&C) Act, 1940. At present, only 23 medical devices including orthopaedic implants have been notified as Drugs under D&C Act. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* order dated 03.07.2018 has constituted a Standing National Committee on Medicines to review and revise the National list of Essential medicines (NLEM) enabling their inclusion in Schedule-I of Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) 2013 for capping of prices.

(c) and (d) Based on complaints and media reports on overpricing and inflated bills to the patients by some hospitals, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) had examined the issue and detected violation of ceiling prices in some cases. NPPA as per the provisions of DPCO 2013 recovers the overcharged amount from the defaulters.

DBT for purchasing of fertilizers

367. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has introduced DBT system for purchase of fertilizers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether consumption/purchase of fertilizers has drastically reduced due to the DBT; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has introduced Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system for fertilizer subsidy in a phase-wise manner across all States/UTs during 2017-18. The Pan India Roll out of DBT has been completed by March, 2018. Details are given in Statement (*See* below). Under the DBT system, 100% subsidy on various / fertilizer grades is being released to the fertilizer