

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme is aimed at providing income support to all landholding farmers' families across the country, irrespective of the size of the land holding, subject to certain exclusions relating to higher income strata. Under the Scheme, an amount of ₹6,000/- per year is transferred in three 4-monthly installments of ₹2,000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers.

(c) and (d) PM-Kisan is a continuous and ongoing Scheme, in which the financial benefits are transferred to the bank accounts of the identified beneficiaries as and when their correct and verified data is uploaded by the concerned States / UTs on PM-Kisan web-portal. The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiaries rests with the State/UT Governments. The data of beneficiaries so uploaded by them have to undergo a multi-level verification and validation by various concerned agencies, including the banks, and only then the amount is released into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. For enrollment, the farmer is required to approach the local patwari/revenue officer/Nodal Officer (PM-Kisan) nominated by the State Government. The Common Service Centres (CSCs) have also been authorized to do registration of farmers for the Scheme upon payment of fees. Farmers can also do their self-registration through the 'Farmers Corner' in the portal.

The estimated number of beneficiaries under the Scheme, in the State of Madhya Pradesh, on the basis of operational land holding data as per Agri - Census Data 2015-16 extrapolated to 2018-19, is 1,03,65,783. As on 19-11-2019, 64,44,588 number of beneficiaries have been registered under the Scheme and payment has been released to 40,93,265 beneficiaries. The remaining data undergoes a correction process by the State Government before approving the same for payment.

Controlling the prices of medicines

681. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government for controlling the prices of medicines and providing medicines at cheap/fair rate to the poor;

(b) whether it is a fact that some medicines have been added and some have been removed by making large changes in the control-list by Government for providing medicines at cheaper price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has taken the following steps for controlling the prices of medicines:-

- (i) All medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011(NLEM) have been included in the First Schedule of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 for the purpose of price regulation. The NPPA fixed ceiling prices of 530 scheduled formulations under NLEM, 2011 effecting per annum saving of ₹ 2,422/-crores. Further, ceiling prices have been fixed for 859 formulations under NLEM, 2015 effecting per annum savings of ₹ 2,644/- crores to consumers.
- (ii) The NPPA capped the prices of 106 formulations related to treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases under para 19 of DPCO, 2013 vide order dated 10th July, 2014.
- (iii) Further, the NPPA fixed the ceiling price of Coronary stents *vide* order dated 13th February, 2017 and fixed the ceiling prices of Knee Implants in August, 2017 resulting in total notional benefit accrued to consumers amounting to ₹ 4547 crore and ₹ 1500 crore annually respectively.
- (iv) The NPPA *vide* order SO 1041 (E) dated 27th February, 2019 put a cap on Trade Margin of 42 select non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines under Trade Margin Rationalisation' Approach. By this approach the MRP of 526 brands of these medicines have been reduced by upto 90%. This move will result in an estimated annual savings of around ₹ 984 crore to the patients.
- (v) Also, the prices of non-scheduled formulation are monitored so that their MRP is not increased by more than 10% of MRP during preceding twelve months.

The details of prices fixed for scheduled formulations, 106 Anti-diabetes and Cardiovascular medicines, Coronary stents, Knee Implants and Anti-cancer medicines are available on NPPA's website www.nppaindia.nic.in.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issued National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2015 by adding and deleting some of the medicines from NLEM, 2011. There were 348 medicines listed in NLEM 2011. A total of 107 medicines (Coronary stents was added at later stage in July, 2016) have been added, and 70 medicines have been deleted to prepare NLEM 2015 which now contains a total of 377 (Coronary stents was added at later stage in July, 2016) medicines. The NLEM, 2015 is available on website of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare at www.mohfw.gov.in.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare *vide* order no. 11035/923/2017-DRS dated 03.07.2018, has constituted Standing National Committee on Medicine (SNCM) under the chairmanship of Secretary, DHR & DG, ICMR to review and revise the National list of Essential Medicines (NLEM) by way of addition and deletion in the existing NLEM, 2015 in the context of contemporary knowledge of use of therapeutic products in health & hygiene of general public.

Sanitary napkin scheme

682. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently launched a scheme for making available sanitary napkins for ensuring menstrual hygiene of women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the sanitary napkin is environment friendly;
- (d) the number of sanitary napkins sold in India so far under this new scheme, whether the price of the said sanitary napkin is cheaper as compared to similar sanitary napkins available in the market;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether country-wide awareness programme has been launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) made available 'Janaushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable