

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1778
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14th December, 2021

New drug policy

**1778 Shri P. Bhattacharya:
Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated a new drug policy, if so, the salient features thereof;
- (b) by when it is likely to be announced and from which date it is being implemented;
- (c) the steps taken in that regard;
- (d) whether any safeguards have been provided therein to control the rising prices of medicines and pharmaceutical products, particularly life-saving drugs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND NEW &
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (e): The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP) in place was formulated by Government and notified on 07th December, 2012. This policy was formulated with the objective 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. In pursuance of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012), the Government notified the Drugs (Prices Control Order, 2013 (DPCO-2013). As per the provisions of DPCO, 2013, the ceiling price of all scheduled formulations appearing in National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), are fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and are uniform throughout the country. All the manufacturers of these drugs are required to sell their product equal to or lower than the ceiling price. Further NPPA monitors the prices of non-scheduled drugs to see that the annual price rise remains below 10% on the Maximum retail price.

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