

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:213  
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006  
DRUG PRICE  
Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

**Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received representations from Pharma Industry regarding liberalizing of drug price;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIOUE)

(a) to (c): Representations from pharma industry on various issues relating to drug industry, including drug price control, are being received in this Department from time to time. Such representations are examined and taken into consideration while taking a decision on any issue relating to drug industry. Recently the Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Pharma) to examine the issue of span of price control (including trade margin). Subsequently, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission was also constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. Based on the recommendations of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Pharmaceuticals) and the Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission and feedback from other stakeholders Government have formulated a draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 (Part-A-excluding pricing) which has been circulated to various stakeholders seeking their comments. Based on the comments received the Government is likely to finalize the new Policy shortly.