

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:837
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
PRICE OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

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

- (a) whether the prices of medicines particularly life saving drug are increasing regularly which are beyond the reach of common men;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices in such a way that at least life saving drugs can be purchased by the common man?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (K. RAHMAN KHAN)

(a) to (c): The drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 does not make any distinction between Life Saving drugs and other drugs. In accordance with the provisions of the said Order, the Government fixes prices of the drugs listed in its First Schedule and formulations based thereon. In case, there is any violation of the approved/notified price of a Scheduled formulation, action is taken under the provisions of the DPCO'95.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.