

APRIL MEDIA COVERAGE

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FINANCIALS

Publication	Financial Express
Date	25-Apr-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Panel for drug price review expanded

Panel for drug price review expanded

As per DoP, the department has received requests from various industry associations for their inclusion in the committee.

Written by [Manu Kaushik](#)
 April 25, 2024 01:15 IST



Since mid-March, the Meditech players have been raising concerns around the price controls on medical devices. (Representational Image: Reuters)

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has broadened the consultation process for framing the new pricing policy for drugs and medical devices, by including several industrial bodies and other stakeholders in the panel for the policy review.

Publication	Financial Express
Date	25-Apr-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Panel for drug price review expanded

Panel for drug price review expanded

MANU KAUSHIK
New Delhi, April 24

THE DEPARTMENT OF Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has broadened the consultation process for framing the new pricing policy for drugs and medical devices, by including several industrial bodies and other stakeholders in the panel for the policy review.

As per DoP, the department has received requests from various industry associations for their inclusion in the committee. "It has been decided to broaden the list of special invitee and additionally include the representatives of the pharma and MediTech associations in the committee," said the DoP notification.

On March 12, DoP announced a five-member committee, including two special invitees from Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) and Indian Drugs Manufacturer's Association (IDMA) to draft a new Drugs and Medical Devices (Control) Order (DPCO) that will

replace the existing DPCO, 2013.

The new member list includes representatives from associations like Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), Medical Technology Association of India (MTAI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), US India Business Council (USIBC), Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) and others.

"The Indian government's plans to review the regulations for controlling drug prices and medical devices is a welcome step. As the main association for the medical device industry, we can add value and bring new perspective to the discussion. We believe that medical devices need separate rules. We have been asking for rules that stop companies from artificially raising prices on medical devices. This practice hurts genuine manufacturers and marketing companies. Instead, we want fair competition based on the real value of the products," said Rajiv Nath, forum coordinator, AiMeD.

Publication	Business Standard Hindi
Date	25-Apr-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Expansion of Drug Price Revision Committee

औषधि मूल्य संशोधन समिति का विस्तार

संकेत कौल
नई दिल्ली, 24 अप्रैल

सरकार ने औषधि व चिकित्सा उपकरणों के मूल्य संशोधन समिति का विस्तार किया है। रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्रालय के अनुसार समिति में विभिन्न औद्योगिक निकाय शामिल किए गए हैं।

फार्मास्यूटिकल्स विभाग ने इस समिति का गठन 12 मार्च को किया था। हालांकि अब इस समिति में औद्योगिक निकाय जैसे भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआईआई), ऑर्गनाइजेशन ऑफ फार्मास्यूटिकल प्रोड्यूसर ऑफ इंडिया (ओपीपीआई), यूएस-इंडिया स्ट्रेटजिक पार्टनरशिप फोरम (यूएसआईएसपीएफ) सहित अन्य शामिल किए गए हैं।

समिति की शर्तों में नेशनल फार्मास्यूटिकल प्राइसिंग एथॉरिटी (एनपीपीए) के तहत संस्थागत सुधार सहित आवश्यक दवाओं के दामों में संतुलन व उपलब्धता मुद्दे को ध्यान में रखते हुए उद्योग को सतत विकास व निर्यात के लिए प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करना है।

ओपीपीआई के महानिदेशक अनिल मताई ने इस समिति में औद्योगिक निकायों को शामिल

करने के बारे में टिप्पणी की। उन्होंने कहा कि औषधि व चिकित्सा उपकरणों के मूल्य की समीक्षा के लिए संतुलित नजरिया अपनाए जाने की जरूरत है। लिहाजा फैसला लेने की प्रक्रिया में विभिन्न रेंज के साझेदारों को शामिल किया गया है।


ट्रिविटॉन हेल्थकेयर के कार्यकारी निदेशक व समूह के मुख्य कार्याधिकारी सत्यकी बनर्जी ने बताया, 'व्यापक साझेदारी की बदौलत समिति अधिक समावेशी मूल्य रणनीति विकसित कर सकेगी जिससे सभी साझेदारों की आवश्यकताओं और चिंताओं का समाधान होगा।'

उद्योग के सूत्रों के मुताबिक समिति चिकित्सा उपकरणों के लिए मूल्य निर्धारण का ढांचा तैयार करने के तरीकों को भी सुझाएगी और चिकित्सा के तकनीकी उद्योग को आयात कम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन मुहैया करवाएगी। उन्होंने बताया, 'इस मिशन के अनुरूप विभाग ने चिकित्सा उपकरणों से जुड़ी एसोसिएशनों जैसे मेडिकल टेक्नोलॉजी एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया (एमटीएएल) और एसोसिएशन ऑफ मेडिकल डिवाइस इंडस्ट्री (एआईएमईडी) को आमंत्रित किया है।'





Publication	Business Standard
Date	24-Apr-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Govt expands committee for drugs, medical devices pricing reforms

Govt expands committee for drugs, medical devices pricing reforms

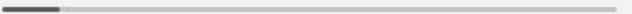



According to an industry source, the committee will also look at ways to design a price moderation framework for medical devices while providing incentives to the medtech industry to minimize imports



Sanket Koul | **New Delhi**
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The government has expanded the composition of the committee formed to look into pricing reforms for drugs and medical devices by admitting various industry bodies, according to a circular issued by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

The committee, which was constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals on March 12, will now have representation from industry bodies such as the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), and the US-India Strategic Partnership

Publication	Mint
Date	24-Apr-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Centre expands committee participation to usher in drugs pricing reforms

"We express our gratitude to the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) for extending an invitation to join the council. As an organization committed to fostering innovation, and accessibility in healthcare, OPPI firmly believes that achieving a balanced approach to price review within the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors requires the participation of a diverse range of stakeholders in the decision-making process. As advocates of patient-centric solutions, we remain steadfast in our commitment to emphasizing the importance of striking a balance between affordability and innovation, ensuring that patients have access to life-saving treatments while incentivizing continued research and development," said Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

Publication	Mint
Date	24-Apr-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Govt expands panel to reform drug; device price mechanism

Govt expands panel to reform drug, device price mechanism

The order has invited officials of at least seven industry associations to the committee

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NEW DELHI

The department of pharmaceuticals, under the Union ministry of chemicals and fertilizers, has decided to expand the five-member committee set up to oversee efforts to reform drug and medical device pricing by inducting more members from industry bodies, according to an order issued by it.

As per the 22 April order seen by *Mint*, it has invited officials/representatives of at least seven industry associations to the committee that has been tasked with striking a balance between pricing and availability of essential medicines, while incentivizing the industry to foster growth and exports.

The move comes after many associations asked why only one pharma body had been included in the core committee.

The new inductees include the director general of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, MD of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, DG of CII, director of US-India Business Council, secretary general of Ficci, and forum coordinator of Association of Indian Medical Device Industry, among others.

In addition to suggesting reforms in the pricing framework for drugs and medical devices, the panel will work on formulating reforms

within the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), establishing a framework for price moderation for medical devices, providing incentives to reduce imports, and developing a price moderation framework for emerging and precision therapies to ensure timely access for

patients in need.

The committee will also supervise the drafting of a new Drugs and Medical Devices (Control) Order, taking into account these objectives. The original panel comprises three key members: secretary, department of pharmaceuticals, chairman,

NPPA, and senior economic adviser to the department of Pharmaceuticals. It also has two representatives from the pharma industry: the secretary of the Indian Pharmaceuti-

cal Alliance and chief executive of the Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association.







Currently, the NPPA follows the regulations outlined in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 to ascertain the prices of medications and medical equipment categorized as drugs.

The move comes after many associations asked why only one pharma body had been included in the core committee

Publication	Economic Times
Date	24-Apr-24
Edition	Online
Headline	Drug reforms panel: Govt expands committee for drug and medical device pricing reforms, includes more industry representation

Govt expands committee for drug and medical device pricing reforms, includes more industry representation

By Teena Thacker, ET Bureau • Last Updated: Apr 24, 2024, 12:46:00 AM IST

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Synopsis

The government has expanded a committee to include more industry representation for reviewing drug and medical device pricing reforms. This move aims to ensure better availability of medicines and devices, while also providing incentives for industry growth and export sustainability. The committee will engage with industry experts and associations to evaluate pricing and availability issues. Ultimately, the government will make the final decisions, with the committee focusing on balancing pricing and availability of essential medicines and designing a price moderation framework for medical devices.



Representative Image

The government has broadened the committee which will look into the reforms in pricing for drugs and medical devices so as to have better representation from the industry. The committee now includes special invitees from the industry including director general of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India

(OPPI), managing director, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), industry representatives like Medical Technology Association of India (MTAI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), forum coordinator of Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMed), Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs (FOPE), among others.

The committee will evaluate the [availability of medicines](#) and medical devices, the pricing of essential medicines while providing incentives to the industry to maintain growth and build [sustainability in exports](#). The committee will soon start consultations with the industry experts and associations of both medicines and medical devices, people in the know told ET.

Publication	Economic Times
Date	24-Apr-24
Edition	Print
Headline	Govts Drug Reforms Panel To Have More Industry Members

Govt's Drug Reforms Panel to Have More Industry Members

Teena.Thacker@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The government has broadened the committee which will look into the reforms in pricing for drugs and medical devices so as to have better representation from the industry.

The committee now includes special invitees from the industry including director general of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), managing director, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), industry representatives like Medical Technology Association of India (MTAI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), forum coordinator of Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMed), Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs (FOPE), among others.

The committee will evaluate the availability of medicines and medical devices, the pricing of essential medicines while providing incentives to the industry to maintain growth and build sustainability in exports. The committee will

soon start consultations with the industry experts and associations of both medicines and medical devices, people in the know told ET.

The final decision will, however, rest with the government. The committee will consist of three core members including the secretary, department of pharmaceuticals, chairman, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and senior economic adviser, department of pharmaceuticals.



Panel now includes special invitees from OPPI, USISPF & MTAI, among others

The committee will see how to balance price and availability of essential medicines, while providing incentives to the industry to sustain growth and exports. It will also look into institutional reforms within the NPPA.

It will also look into designing a price moderation framework for medical devices, while providing incentives to the industry to sustain growth and minimise imports.

ONLINE AND TRADE

Publication	PharmaBizz
Date	24-Apr-24
Headline	DoP broadens list of special invitees into committee constituted to reform pricing framework

DoP broadens list of special invitees into committee constituted to reform pricing framework

Gireesh Babu, New Delhi

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 08:00 Hrs [IST]

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has broadened the list of special invitees in the Committee constituted recently for the reforms in pricing framework for drugs and medical devices to include all major industry organisations, in line with the request of industry representatives.

While the initial notification constituting the Committee had a provision to have two special invitees from the industry, one each from the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IP Alliance) and Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association (IDMA), according to the latest decision, the number of special invitees would be 12, comprising one representative from 12 different organisations.

"...based on the request received by the Department from various Industry Associations for inclusion of their representatives as Special Invitees in the aforesaid Committee, it has been decided to broaden the list of Special Invitee and additionally include the representatives of the following Pharm and MediTech Associations as Special Invitee in the said committee," said the DoP.

The broadened list of special invitees include director general of Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), managing director, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), chairman of Medical Technology Association of India (MTAI), director general, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), director, US India Business Council (USIBC), secretary general, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), forum coordinator, Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMeD), executive director of Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs (FOPE), representatives of Advamed, Association of Diagnostic Manufacturers of India (ADMI), Bulk Drugs Manufacturers Association of India (BDMAI), and Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (Assocham).

The terms of reference of the Committee shall remain the same as mentioned in the initial order, it added.

Publication	ThePrint
Date	12-Apr-24
Headline	Foreign pharma firms seek clarity on doctors attending events abroad under new 'ethical practices' rules

Anil Matai, director general of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), a network of research-based global pharmaceutical companies in India, said the organisation had reached out to the government a few days ago to understand what happens in cases where medical conferences are organised by firms headquartered abroad.

"Many times, companies want doctors to join conferences where breakthrough therapies are launched or a drug is approved for a new indication or a new class of action — so will the new code mean that Indian doctors will not attend these events at all?" Matai said to ThePrint.

"Since our member companies are outside India, they normally organise such events abroad, and the intent is not to take doctors to foreign locations but to expose them to breakthrough developments in the pharma sector," he said.

"Therefore, we have requested the government to elaborate on the provision and also sought clarity on when the new rules come into effect."

Matai also said that all members of the organisation were bound by the OPPI's stringent code of pharmaceutical practices that were far more strict than India's UCPMP and drew clear boundaries for relationships between pharma firms and healthcare professionals.

In response to a query by ThePrint, DoP secretary Arunish Chawla said the department has heard the group and a "decision will be taken in due course".