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भारत सरकार / Government of India

रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्रालय / Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

औषध विभाग / Department of Pharmaceuticals

शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated: 27 May, 2021

Office Memorandum

Subject: Monthly Summary Report in respect of Department of Pharmaceuticals for the month of April, 2021-reg.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the Monthly Summary pertaining to the Department of Pharmaceuticals for the month of April, 2021 for information.



(Shamim Uddin Ansari)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Tel. No. 011-2338 5473

To,

1. All members of Council of Ministers
2. Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, New Delhi
3. The Principal information Officer, M/o Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Copy to:

1. Secretaries to the Govt. of India, All Ministries/Department.
2. The Chairman, UPSC, Shahajahan Road, New Delhi-110069.
3. Secretary to President of India (Rashtrapati Ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi-110004.
4. Secretary to Vice- President of India (Uprashtrapati Ke Sachiv), New Delhi-110004.
5. PS to Prime Minister of India, South Block, New Delhi-110004.
6. Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi-110004.
7. PSO to Secretary (Pharma).
8. Director (NIC), Department of Pharmaceuticals, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers
Department of Pharmaceuticals
Monthly Summary for the Month of April, 2021

Important events for the Month of **April, 2021** are as follows:

(A) IMPORTANT POLICY DECISIONS:

Due to sudden rise in number of COVID-19 cases in the country in first half of April, the demand for Remdesivir drug suddenly surged and consequently there was a demand supply mismatch. The department immediately engaged the manufacturers for augmenting production and with importers to increase supplies. Further in order to ensure that all the States receive supplies of this drug equitably, it was decided in consultation with Department of Health and Family Welfare and the manufacturers that till the demand supply mismatch persists, the supply of these two drug will be allocated among the States/UTs. The States were also informed of this decision through a Presentation done in the VC held by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with Health Secretaries of the States on 20th April.

(B) MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS:

I. NPPA:

(i) Fixed Ceiling price of 1 medicine (bringing cumulative figure to 883) and Retail prices of 42 new medicines (bringing cumulative figure to 1531) and recovered overcharged amount of Rs. 7.99 lakhs during the month.

(ii) In order to ensure continuous availability of Heparin Injection 1000IU/ml and Heparin Injection 5000IU/ml required for Covid patients, extended its ceiling prices up to 30.09.2021.

(iii) In view of continuing COVID pandemic, the price ceiling of Medical Oxygen was extended up to 30.09.2021.

II. PMBJP

(iv) 134 new Jan Aushadhi Kendras under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) opened the month across the country.

III NIPERs

(v) Two Patents were filed and 46 Research Papers published by various NIPERs during the month.

IV PLI

Workshop at level of HMCF held with selected participants of the PLI schemes for bulk drugs and medical devices to encourage them for timely and effective implementation of the projects. Advertisement issued on 30th April, 2021 seeking applications for un-allotted/ under-allotted

eligible products under the target segments with last date of receipt of applications as 28th July, 2021.

(V) Covid-related activities

The department started interacting with manufacturers of COVID-19 drugs in the first week of April after the cases of COVID-19 started rising in the country at a fast pace. Regular interactions with the NPPA and the CDSCO also started in right earnest. A COVID Drugs Management Cell (CDMC) comprising of Senior officers of the department has been created in the Department to handle all COVID drugs related matters in a focussed manner. Daily meetings (Sometimes twice a day) of this Cell took place in which officers of the CDSCO and the NPPA also joined. Issues concerning augmentation of production of drugs, allocation and supplies of drugs to States, timely responses to communications received from States, Issues faced by Pharma Companies, Supreme Court and High Court matters connected with COVID pandemic were discussed and decision taken. Frequent meeting with manufacturers were held to encourage them to ramp up production. With expeditious approval from CDSCO, the number of licensed manufacturing units were increased substantially. On the recommendation of the department, Department of Revenue, vide its notification dated 20th April, exempted Remdesivir Formulation, Remdesivir API and Beta Cyclodextrin (an Excipient used in manufacture of Remdesivir) from Basic Customs Duty.

NPPA:

- i. NPPA set up a Control Room (Helpline No.-1800111255/ Email: monitoring-nppa@gov.in) to receive complaints on availability on medicines and is making all out efforts to address the issues promptly by coordinating with the State authorities, manufacturers, marketers and their associations. During the second wave of COVID-19, 849 complaints were received for the period during April, 2021.
- ii. Supply of Remdesivir to States/UTs across the country was monitored.

(C) The details of grievances during the **April, 2021** are as under:

No. of grievances at the start of the month	No. of grievances received during the month	No. of grievances disposed	No. of grievances pending at end of the month
74	131	95	110

(D) FDI proposals:-

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|
| (a) Pending at beginning of the month | :- | 12 |
| (b) Received during the month | :- | 0 |
| (c) Disposed of during the month | :- | 0 |
| (d) Pending at end of the month | :- | 12 |
