

### NPPA's overpricing list: Cipla tops with Rs 1,382-cr excessive billing 378

**NEW DELHI:** Leading pharmaceutical firms such as Cipla, Ranbaxy, Pfizer, Dr Reddy's are among the companies pulled up by the drug price regulator National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) for overcharging. According to the information available on the NPPA website, as on March 31, 2010, the total estimated overcharged amount, including interest, by various pharmaceutical firms since the inception of the NPPA in 1997 stood at a whopping Rs 2,150.38 crore. But so far, the Authority could recover a paltry Rs 191.45 crore from this and is fighting litigations in various courts to recover the rest of the sum. According to the Authority, the country's top two firms Cipla and Ranbaxy, accounted for over 50% of the total overcharged amount. While Cipla's overcharged amount stood at Rs 1,382 crore, that of Ranbaxy's was at Rs 136.2 crore during the period.

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