

[Govt asked to withdraw hike in prices of medicines](#)

[Ikram Junaidi](#) Updated January 13, 2019



ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and some of the stakeholders of the health sector have criticised a sudden increase in prices of various medicines and urged the government to withdraw the decision as middle and lower classes would suffer the most because of it.

Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar, the spokesman for PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, has said that the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) government is preying on the people by hiking the prices.

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) on Friday had announced up to 15 per cent increase in prices of various medicines.

He said the constant increase in prices of goods was unacceptable and would not be tolerated. The government first snatched the calm of the people and was now snatching their lives by increasing the prices of medicines, he said. "The government's only performance has been taking from the people the facilities provided to them. In the guise of claims of providing people with five million houses, the government has only rendered people homeless," Senator Khokhar said.

He said that the government's conduct had been disappointing and it was only a matter of time that the people of Pakistan would start protesting against the injustice and biased attitude of the PTI rule. The government had proven itself to be a destructive tsunami, he concluded.

Secretary General of the Pakistan Medical Association Dr Qaisar Sajjad has stated that the association was very much concerned over the hike in medicine prices.

"The government should find other ways to minimise the effect of increasing the cost of medicines because of the rupee's devaluation. It could be done by supporting pharmaceutical companies by reducing taxes and duty on import of raw materials for manufacturing drugs. Vaccines and raw materials should be produced locally. Fake and counterfeit drugs and smuggling of medicines should be eliminated on a priority basis," Dr Sajjad said.

Pakistan Islamic Medical Association's president Prof Afzal Mian said the rising inflation had exposed the government's inability to plan for welfare of the nation. Even if the excuse of devaluation was accepted, it is deplorable that the crunch was yet again transferred to the people who were struggling to survive, he added.

However, Pharma Bureau's Executive Director Ayesha Tammy Haq while talking to Dawn said that the increase was not sufficient as most of the medicine prices were increased by 9pc while the rupee was devalued by over 30pc.

"Chief Justice of Pakistan Mian Saqib Nisar had also directed the government and Drap to increase the prices of medicines, considering the hike in the dollar's value and finally it has been done," she said.

Ms Haq said that although the increase was not sufficient it would help the pharmaceutical companies to survive. "We expect that the prices will be further increased at the end of the financial year, considering the Consumer Price Index," she said.

In reply to a question, she said that the government could have reduced the taxes rather than passing the burden to patients, but it did not go for that option.

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<https://www.dawn.com/news/1457172>

Pakistan Medical Association says hike in drug prices 'unacceptable', calls for its reversal

[The Newspaper's Staff Reporter](#) Updated January 13, 2019



KARACHI: Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) on Saturday stated that it was “extremely concerned” over the “unacceptable” increase in the prices of medicines by the federal government.

“The announcement of 15 per cent hike in medicine prices by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan with the consent of the federal government is highly disappointing and unacceptable,” said Dr S.M. Qaisar Sajjad, secretary general of the PMA, in a statement issued here.

“It is very distressing that instead of providing any relief to the people, the government had increased drug prices despite the fact that the older prices were already unaffordable,” he said.

He added that the painful aspect of the issue was that prices of lifesaving drugs had also been increased.

“In such a situation when there is scarcity of health facilities at public hospitals, this increase in medicine prices will add to the miseries of people.”

Dr Sajjad said half of the country’s population lived below the poverty line and they went to public hospitals for medical treatment.

“The conditions in the public hospitals are very poor. It is responsibility of the government to improve these facilities; and it should provide free medicines to all the patients coming to the government hospitals.”

The PMA official suggested that the government should consider some other ways to minimise the impact of the increased prices of medicines because of devaluation of the rupee.

“It could be done by supporting pharmaceutical companies through reducing taxes and cut in import duty of the raw material for drugs manufacturing and packaging. Vaccines and raw material for medicines should be produced in the country. Fake, counterfeit drugs and medicines’ smuggling should be eliminated on a priority basis.”

The PMA demanded that the federal government review its decision and withdraw the notification regarding the increase in drug prices to lessen difficulties of poor people who were already suffering because of the irrepressible inflation and bad economic situation in the country.

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[PMA slams raise in life-saving drugs](#)

- [RECORDER REPORT](#)
- [Jan 13th, 2019](#)
- [KARACHI](#)

Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) has expressed its concerned over the announcement of 15 percent hike in the medicine prices by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) with the consent of the federal government of Pakistan. In a press release issued here on Saturday, PMA said it is very distressing that instead of providing any relief to the masses, government has increased the medicine prices which was already out of reach of the poor people. The painful aspect of this development is that prices of life saving drugs have also been increased. In such conditions when there is scarcity of health facilities at public hospitals, this increment of medicine prices will add to the misery of the people.

Fifty percent population of the country lives below the poverty line; these people visit public hospitals for their medical treatment. The conditions of the public hospitals are very poor. It is the responsibility of the Government to improve these facilities. Government should provide free medicine to all the patients coming to the Government run hospitals.

PMA suggests that government should ponder some other ways to minimize the effect of increasing the cost of medicine because of devaluation of Pakistani currency. It could be done by supporting pharmaceutical companies through reducing taxes and cut in import duty of the raw material for drugs manufacturing and packaging.-PR

<https://fp.brecorder.com/2019/01/20190113439337/>

The Nation

Medical bodies reject hike in prices of medicines



Our Staff Reporter January 13, 2019

LAHORE - Rejecting recent hike in prices of drugs, medical bodies have demanded withdrawing the notification and taking alternative measures for reducing cost of inputs.

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has announced 9-15 per cent hike in the prices of medicines due to increase in the value of dollar and its impact on the cost of raw materials and materials used in the packaging of medicines.

According to a notification issued by DRAP on Friday, nine per cent increase has been approved in the prices of life-saving drugs and 15pc in the prices of other medicines.

Spokesperson of DRAP said that the price hike in raw materials had affected the availability of medicines and vaccines in the country. "Pharmaceutical companies say that it is not commercially viable for them to manufacture such medicine," he said.

Rejecting the viewpoint of DRAP, Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) believed that there were other possible measures to compensate for increase in cost of inputs.

It is distressing that instead of providing relief to the masses, government has increased the medicine prices which was already out of reach of the poor people, the PMA said. The painful aspect of this development is that prices of life saving drugs have also been increased. In such conditions when there is scarcity of health facilities at public hospitals, this increment of medicine prices will add to the misery of the people.

Fifty percent population of the country lives below the poverty line; these people visit public hospitals for their medical treatment. The conditions of the public hospitals are very poor. It is the responsibility of the government to improve these facilities. Government should provide free medicine to all the patients coming to the public sector hospitals.

PMA suggests that Government should ponder some other ways to minimize the effect of increasing the cost of medicine because of devaluation of Pakistani currency. It could be done by supporting pharmaceutical companies through reducing taxes and cut in import duty of the raw material for drugs manufacturing and packaging. Vaccines and raw material for medicine should be produced in the country. Fake, counterfeit drugs and medicine smuggling should be eliminated on priority basis. PMA demands from the federal government to review its decision and withdraw this notification to ease the difficulties of the poor people already suffering from the inflation and bad economic situation in the country.

<https://nation.com.pk/13-Jan-2019/medical-bodies-reject-hike-in-prices-of-medicines>

KARACHI: Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) on Saturday showed concern over the announcement of 15 per cent hike in the medicine prices by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) with the consent of the federal government of Pakistan.

PMA General Secretary Dr S M Qaisar Sajjad said it is very distressing that instead of providing relief to the masses, the government has increased the medicine prices which was already out of reach of the poor people.

He said that the painful aspect of this development is that prices of life saving drugs have also been increased. “In such conditions, when there is a scarcity of health facilities at public hospitals, this increment of medicine prices will add to the misery of the people,” he lamented.

Sajjad noted that 50pc population of the country was living below the poverty line; these people visit public hospitals for their medical treatment. “The conditions of the public hospitals are extremely poor. It is the responsibility of the government to improve these facilities,” he added.

<https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/01/12/govt-urged-to-withdraw-hike-in-drug-prices/>

January 13, 2019

PMA asks govt to withdraw hike in drug prices

KARACHI: Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) on Saturday showed concern over the announcement of 15 per cent hike in the medicine prices by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) with the consent of the federal government of Pakistan. Secretary General, PMA Centre, Dr S M Qaisar Sajjad said it is very distressing that instead of providing any relieve to the masses, government has increased the medicine prices which was already out of reach of the

poor people. He said painful aspect of this development is that prices of life saving drugs have also been increased. In such conditions when there is scarcity of health facilities at public hospitals, this increment of medicine prices will add to the misery of the people. He said 50 per cent population of the country lives below the poverty line; these people visit public hospitals for their medical treatment. The conditions of the public hospitals are very poor. It is the respon-

sibility of the Government to improve these facilities. He urged the government to provide free medicine to all the patients coming to the government hospitals. He suggested that Government should ponder some other ways to minimize the effect of increasing the cost of medicines because of devaluation of Pakistani Currency.

It could be done by supporting pharmaceutical companies through reducing taxes and cut in import duty of the raw material for

drugs manufacturing and packaging. Vaccines and raw material for medicine should be produced in the country. Fake, counterfeit drugs and medicine smuggling should be eliminated on priority basis.

He demanded from the federal government to review its decision and withdraw this notification of increment of drug prices to ease the difficulties of the poor people already suffering from the inflation and bad economic situation in the country.—RT/Agency

<http://regionaltimes.com/13Jan2019/3.jpg>



January 13, 2019

دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں اضافے پر پی ایم اے کا اظہار تشویش

کراچی (پ ر) حکومت کی اجازت سے ڈرگ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹی پاکستان کی جانب سے دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں کیے گئے 15 فیصد اضافے پر پاکستان میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن گہری تشویش کا اظہار کرتی ہے یہ مایوس کن بات ہے کہ حکومت نے عوام کو کوئی ریلیف دینے کے بجائے دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں اضافہ کر دیا ہے جو پہلے ہی عوام کی قوت خرید سے باہر تھیں اس اضافے کا دردناک پہلو یہ ہے کہ زندگی بچانے والی ادویات کی قیمتیں بھی بڑھادی گئی ہیں ایسی صورت حال میں جب سرکاری اسپتالوں میں سہولتوں کا فقدان ہے تو اس اضافے سے عوام کی مشکلات بڑھیں گی۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=6049832&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20190113



ادویہ مہنگی ہونے سے عوامی مشکلات بڑھیں گی، پی ایم اے

حکومت ادویہ کی تیاری پر آنیوالے اخراجات میں کمی کیلئے متبادل طریقوں پر غور کرے
مختلف اقسام کی ویکسینز اور خام مال ملک میں ہی تیار کیا جائے، ڈاکٹر ایس ایم قیصر سجاد

کراچی (اسٹاف رپورٹر) پاکستان میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن نے حکومت کی اجازت سے ڈرگ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹی کی جانب سے ادویہ کی قیمتوں میں 15 فیصد اضافے پر گہری تشویش اور افسوس کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ حکومت نے عوام کو کوئی ریلیف دینے کے بجائے ادویہ کی قیمتوں میں اضافہ کر دیا، جو کہ پہلے ہی قوت خرید سے باہر تھیں۔ اس اضافے کا دردناک پہلو یہ ہے کہ زندگی بچانے والی ادویہ کی قیمتیں بھی بڑھادی گئی ہیں، ایسی صورتحال میں جب سرکاری اسپتالوں میں سہولتوں کا سخت فقدان ہے اس اضافے سے عوام کی مشکلات بڑھیں گی۔ پی ایم اے کے سیکریٹری جنرل ڈاکٹر ایس ایم قیصر سجاد نے کہا کہ ہمارے ملک کی 50 فیصد سے زائد آبادی غربت کی لکیر سے نیچے زندگی گزار رہی ہے، یہ لوگ علاج کے لئے سرکاری اسپتالوں کا رخ کرتے ہیں لیکن ان کی حالت زار کسی سے ڈھکی چھپی نہیں، حکومت کی ذمہ داری ہے کہ ان اسپتالوں میں بہتری پیدا کرے اور تمام مریضوں کو ادویہ کی مفت فراہمی یقینی بنائے۔ انہوں نے حکومت کو مشورہ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ روپے کی قدر میں کمی کے باعث ادویہ کی تیاری پر اٹھنے والے اخراجات کو کم کرنے کے لئے متبادل طریقوں پر غور کرے۔ دواساز اداروں کو ٹیکس میں چھوٹ اور ادویہ کے لئے خام مال کی درآمد پر ڈیوٹی میں کمی کر کے ان مسائل کو حل کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ مختلف اقسام کی ویکسینز اور ادویہ کے لئے خام مال ملک میں ہی تیار کیا جائے۔

January 13, 2019

ریلیف دینے کے بجائے دو اڑوں کی قیمتیں بڑھادی کسٹین پاکستان میڈیکل

دواؤں کی قیمتیں پہلے ہی عوام کی قوت خرید سے باہر تھیں، 15 فیصد اضافے پر گہری تشویش کا اظہار
دوا سازوں کو ٹیکس میں چھوٹ، خام مال کی درآمد پر ڈیوٹی کم کر کے مسائل کو حل کیا جاسکتا ہے، ڈاکٹر قیصر

کے لیے دوسرے طریقوں پر غور کرے۔ دوا ساز اداروں کو ٹیکس میں چھوٹ دینے اور دواؤں کے لیے خام مال کی درآمد پر ڈیوٹی میں کمی کر کے ان مسائل کو حل کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ مختلف اقسام کی ویکسین اور ادویات کے لئے خام مال ملک میں ہی تیار کیا جائے۔ نقلی و جعلی ادویات اور ادویات کی اسمگلنگ کا خاتمہ ترجیحی بنیادوں پر کیا جائے۔ پی ایم اے نے وفاقی حکومت سے مطالبہ کیا کہ وہ اپنے اس فیصلے پر نظر ثانی کرتے ہوئے دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں اضافے کے نوٹیفکیشن واپس لے تاکہ غریب عوام کی مشکلات کو کم کیا جاسکے جو پہلے ہی مہنگائی اور ابتر معاشی صورتحال کے باعث پریشانیوں کا شکار ہیں۔

میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن کے سیکریٹری جنرل ڈاکٹر ایس ایم قیصر سجاد نے کہا کہ ہمارے ملک کی 50 فیصد سے زائد آبادی غربت کی لکیر سے نیچے زندگی گزار رہی ہے یہ لوگ اپنے علاج معالجے کے لیے سرکاری اسپتالوں کا رخ کرتے ہیں لیکن سرکاری اسپتالوں کی حالت زار کسی سے ڈھکی چھپی نہیں ہے حکومت کی یہ ذمہ داری ہے کہ ان اسپتالوں میں بہتری پیدا کرے سرکاری اسپتالوں میں آنے والے تمام مریضوں کو ہر کسی کی ادویات کی مفت فراہمی کو یقینی بنایا جائے۔ پی ایم اے نے حکومت کو مشورہ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ روپے کی قدر میں کمی کے باعث دواؤں کی تیاری میں اٹھنے والے اثرات کو کم کرنے

کراچی (اسٹاف رپورٹر) پاکستان میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن نے حکومت کی اجازت سے ڈرگ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹی پاکستان کی جانب سے دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں کیے گئے 15 فیصد اضافے پر گہری تشویش کا اظہار کیا ہے اور انسوس کا اظہار کیا ہے کہ حکومت نے عوام کو کوئی ریلیف دینے کے بجائے دواؤں کی قیمتوں میں اضافہ کر دیا ہے جو پہلے ہی عوام کی قوت خرید سے باہر تھیں۔ اس اضافے کا دردناک پہلو یہ ہے کہ زندگی بچانے والی ادویات کی قیمتیں بھی بڑھادی گئی ہیں۔ ایسی صورتحال میں جب سرکاری اسپتالوں میں سہولتوں کا سخت فقدان ہے تو اس اضافے سے عوام کی مشکلات بڑھیں گی۔ پاکستان

