

## NPPA Foundation Day

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority celebrated its Foundation Day on the theme 'Affordable Medicines for all' on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

The celebrations were inaugurated by Hon. Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers and Parliamentary Affairs Shri. H. N. Ananth Kumar.



Sh. Bhupendra Singh, Chairman, NPPA said "For about 350 medicines which are under the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) we are not getting any market data. To bring them under the price control, we need to tweak the DPCO."

The Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Ananth Kumar appealed to the industry leaders, State Governments, other departments and civil society in pooling efforts to make available medicines at affordable prices to the common man.

The Minister advocated a '3A' approach – availability, affordability and accessibility - to achieve health security for every citizen of India. He highlighted the need of transparent and efficient discovery of drug prices and regulation of the pharma sector.

The Minister launched a mobile App. developed by NPPA which shows the MRP fixed by NPPA for various scheduled drugs on real time basis. Sh. Ananth Kumar said that application will be called "Pharma Sahi Daam".

He also unveiled the logo of NPPA which will be displayed on packing of all scheduled medicines.

Sh. Ananth Kumar said that he is pursuing the case for making an independent Ministry for Pharmaceuticals so that all decisions regarding the industry could be taken under a single roof.

He said the government would not be a "mute spectator" and will regulate the prices of those 350 items as well in relation to which details are not available. In next 15 days, we are going to make the amendment to empower the NPPA.

The minister further said the NPPA would fix the prices of all the remaining medicines in NLEM in a couple of months.

The minister further said that Under the dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, two pronged strategy is being adopted to provide cheap medicines to the common man- one is through regulating the prices by NPPA and another is opening of PM Jan Aushadhi Stores.

He said that within one year, 3000 PM Jan Aushadhi Stores will be opened in the country covering all districts and tehsils.

Sh. Ananth Kumar said that most of the medicines in Jan Aushadhi Stores cost 30 to 40 per cent as compared to the market cost and no medicine in Jan Aushadhi Store is more than 50 per cent of the market cost.



Sh. K.B. Agarwal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr. G.N. Singh, Drug Controller General of India, Sh. Sudhanshu Pant, JS, D/o Pharmaceutical and Dr. M. Ariz Ahammed, JS, D/o Pharmaceutical also spoke on the occasion.

The inaugural function and the National Seminar were attended by stalwarts from the pharmaceutical companies, representatives of pharmaceutical associations, representatives of chambers of commerce and industry, representatives from pharmacists' and chemists' associations, civil society activists, academia, research scholars and students from schools of medicine, pharmacy and law, NIPERs, State Drug Controllers, officers and staff from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation, state governments, and the NPPA.