

TELLING NUMBERS

Lower MRP on Covid drugs, devices after GST reduction

IN ITS 44th meeting on June 12, the GST Council had reduced GST on goods being used in Covid-19 management until September 30. On June 15, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) issued instructions to all manufacturers and marketing companies of drugs/formulations and medical devices to revise the maximum retail price of items on which

tax/GST rates have been reduced, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilisers Mansukh L Mandaviya said in Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

He was replying to an unstarred question from Congress MP M K Raghavan, who wanted to know whether the NPPA has asked pharma manufactures to reduce the prices of medicines in view of the GST reduction.

Items	GST rates	
	Existing as of June 12, 2021	Recommended by GST Council
Tocilizumab	5%	Nil
Amphotericin B	5%	Nil
Anti-coagulants like heparin	12%	5%
Remdesivir	12%	5%
Any other recommended drug	As applicable	5%
Oxygen & related equipment	12%	5%
Covid testing kits	12%	5%
Pulse oximeters	12%	5%
Hand sanitiser	18%	5%
Temperature check equipment	18%	5%
Furnaces for crematorium	18%	5%
Ambulances	28%	12%

Source: Lok Sabha