NPPA

NPPA meeting sets 35 drug prices, exempts a midazolam spray

Minutes of NPPA's 153rd meeting of October 29, 2026: retail prices for 35 new drugs, a midazolam spray exemption, an oxaliplatin price and a per gram gel price.

THE NATIONAL Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) met on October 29, 2026 at 4:30 PM for its 285th meeting overall, the 153rd under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). Manoj Joshi, Secretary of the Department of Pharmaceuticals and Chairman of NPPA, chaired it. The minutes, Proceeding No. 285/153/2026/F under F. No. 8(153)/2026/DP/NPPA-Div. II, are signed by Member Secretary Sai Ahlladini Panda on November 2, 2026. The Authority confirmed the minutes of its 150th, 151st and 152nd meetings without change and noted the action taken on them, the status of new drug applications, the minutes of the 80th meeting of the Multidisciplinary Committee of Experts (MDC) of September 24, 2026, and the status of review cases.

KEY FACTS

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Minutes of the 285th (overall) and 153rd meeting of the Authority under the DPCO, 2013, Proceeding No. 285/153/2026/F

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The Authority approved retail prices for 35 new drugs under paragraphs 5 and 15 of the DPCO, 2013, from agenda items 4(1) to 4(35). The minutes record two notes. For item 4(4), Ceftriaxone and Tazobactam Injection priced at ₹125.07 a vial, one member said the claimed price should be notified as the retail price, being the lower of the "worked out price" and the "claimed price". The minutes answer that at its 148th meeting, after the Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 2026 came into force on July 1, 2026, the Authority decided to notify the worked out price as the retail price from then on. The applicant and any other existing maker covered by those provisions must launch at a price no higher than the notified retail price. The applicant may launch at its claimed price if that is lower. For item 4(35), Cholecalciferol chewable tablets of 7000 IU at ₹8.93 a tablet, the company had launched without NPPA's prior price approval, so that price applies only to that manufacturer and marketer.

The Authority granted M/s. Biodeal Pharmaceuticals Limited an exemption under paragraph 32(iii) of the DPCO, 2013 for "Midazolam Nasal Spray 1.25 mg" for five years with effect from May 5, 2025, the date the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) granted market approval. The company claimed the product came from its own research and development as a new drug delivery system. It filed CDSCO's new drug permission, the state licence and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) recognition of its in-house R&D unit, and later detailed development data. CDSCO confirmed that it first granted new drug permission for Midazolam Nasal Spray 1.25% w/v to Biodeal on May 5, 2025, and the MDC recommended the exemption on September 24, 2026. At the meeting, one member said the applicant had claimed there was no comparator product on the market with the same label claim of 4 metered doses, while a product called "Midacip" with that label claim was on sale, and gave a photocopy of its pack. The Authority found that Biodeal makes Midacip, relied on CDSCO's confirmation, which the representative of the Drugs Controller General of India repeated at the meeting, and accepted the MDC's recommendation.

The Authority approved a revised ceiling price of ₹2,285.84 per 10 ml vial for "Oxaliplatin Injection 5 mg/ml in 10 ml vial", including the revision for the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) from

April 1, 2026, in place of ₹2,287.59. The Department of Pharmaceuticals had sent the case back by review order No. 31015/39/2023-Pricing(E-23351) of March 30, 2026. Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. had sought review of NPPA's notification S.O. 194(E) of January 11, 2023, saying its brand "Dacotin RTU 50 mg/10 ml vial", with nearly 13% of the market, was left out of the calculation. It had been left out because Form-II and Form-V data were not filed and the brand did not show separately in the Pharmarack database. NPPA recalculated with five more SKUs verified by Pharmarack, including Dacotin RTU and "OXITOZ 50 MG INJECTION 25 ML", whose pack size was confirmed as 50 mg/10 ml, using July 2022 price to retailer (PTR) data as in the first fixation. It posted the draft worksheet on September 9, 2026 and received no representation. The Authority also agreed to Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited's request of October 15, 2026 for a per gram retail price for its Diclofenac 2% gel (Volini Maxx Gel), priced by pack size under S.O. 5638(E) of November 2, 2018. The existing prices for the 10 g, 15 g, 20 g and 30 g packs work out to ₹6.25 a gram, and the company asked so it can launch other pack sizes, subject to the DPCO, 2013.

The minutes do not list the orders that carry these decisions. NPPA notified them on November 2, 2026, each under PN/285/153/2026/F: Order S.O. 5998(E) for the retail prices of 34 new drugs, Order S.O. 5999(E) for the Cholecalciferol 7000 IU tablet, Order S.O. 6000(E) for the midazolam exemption, Order S.O. 6001(E) for the oxaliplatin ceiling price and Corrigendum S.O. 6002(E) for the diclofenac gel at ₹6.25 a gram.

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Document	Minutes of the 285th (overall) and 153rd meeting of the Authority under the DPCO, 2013, Proceeding No. 285/153/2026/F
File	F. No. 8(153)/2026/DP/NPPA-Div. II
Meeting held	October 29, 2026, 4:30 PM
Minutes signed	November 2, 2026, by Sai Ahlladini Panda, Member Secretary
Chaired by	Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals and Chairman, NPPA
New drug prices	35 retail prices approved under paragraphs 5 and 15 of the DPCO, 2013, agenda items 4(1) to 4(35)
Price policy recorded	Since the Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 2026 came into force on July 1, 2026, the worked out price is notified as the retail price (decided at the 148th meeting)
Exemption	M/s. Biodeal Pharmaceuticals Limited, "Midazolam Nasal Spray 1.25 mg", paragraph 32(iii), five years with effect from May 5, 2025

Ceiling price revised	"Oxaliplatin Injection 5 mg/ml in 10 ml vial": ₹2,287.59 to ₹2,285.84 per 10 ml vial, WPI revision from April 1, 2026 included
Per gram price	Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited, Diclofenac 2% gel (Volini Maxx Gel), ₹6.25 a gram
Related	Order S.O. 5998(E) of November 2, 2026: retail prices of 34 new drugs
Related	Order S.O. 5999(E) of November 2, 2026: Cholecalciferol Tablets 7000 IU, ₹8.93 a tablet, for the named maker and marketer only
Related	Order S.O. 6000(E) of November 2, 2026: the midazolam nasal spray exemption
Related	Order S.O. 6001(E) of November 2, 2026: the oxaliplatin ceiling price
Related	Corrigendum S.O. 6002(E) of November 2, 2026: the diclofenac gel at ₹6.25 a gram

Oxaliplatin Injection 5 mg/ml in 10 ml vial: ceiling price before and after the review order

Particulars	Ceiling price notified (₹/vial)	Revised ceiling price based on Review Order (₹/vial)
Price fixed in January 2023	1,992.32	1,990.80
WPI adjustment w.e.f. 01.04.2023	241.51	241.32
Ceiling price w.e.f. 01.04.2023	2,233.83	2,232.12
Ceiling price w.e.f. 01.04.2024	2,233.95	2,232.24
Ceiling price w.e.f. 01.04.2025	2,272.83	2,271.09
Ceiling price w.e.f. 01.04.2026	2,287.59	2,285.84

The minutes of meeting (PDF, 955 KB)

Source: NPPA's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on November 7, 2026.

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