

October 17, 2026

NPPA

Trade margins on 137 anti-cancer drugs capped at 30%

NPPA order S.O. 5690(E) of October 17, 2026 caps the trade margin at 30% on non-scheduled formulations of 137 anti-cancer drugs, with revised prices from November 9.

THE NATIONAL Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), under the Department of Pharmaceuticals of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, issued Order S.O. 5690(E) dated October 17, 2026, published the same day in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5473. It invokes paragraph 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) for 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs listed in its Table B, a power

delegated to NPPA by S.O. 1349(E) of May 30, 2013 under sections 3 and 5 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; it records an earlier pilot under paragraph 19, in 2019, for 42 such drugs. An Expert Committee of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the Directorate General of Health Services recommended the 137 drugs, and NPPA decided at its meeting of October 16 and 17, 2026 to notify them and to cover patented drugs as well. The order says the list will be updated periodically.

KEY FACTS

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Order S.O. 5690(E), under paragraph 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013

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The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), under the Department of Pharmaceuticals of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, issued Order S.O. 5690(E) dated October 17, 2026, published the same day in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5473. It invokes paragraph 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) for 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs listed in its Table B, a power delegated to NPPA by S.O. 1349(E) of May 30, 2013 under sections 3 and 5 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; it records an earlier pilot under paragraph 19, in 2019, for 42 such drugs. An Expert Committee of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the Directorate General of Health Services recommended the 137 drugs, and NPPA decided at its meeting of October 16 and 17, 2026 to notify them and to cover patented drugs as well. The order says the list will be updated periodically.

The order caps the trade margin at 30% and directs manufacturers to fix the maximum retail price (MRP) of non-scheduled formulations containing any Table B drug, alone or in combination, irrespective of dosage strength, dosage form or route of administration, by the formula in its Table A: $MRP = PTS/PTD \times \{1 + (TM / (100 - TM))\} + \text{applicable GST}$, where TM is a trade margin not exceeding 30 and PTS/PTD is the price to stockist or distributor for March 2026. Trade margin means the difference between that price and the MRP charged to the patient, excluding GST, and GST may be added only if it has actually been paid or is payable to the Government. The March 2026 price is net sales realization divided by quantity sold that month, or over April 2025 to March 2026 if there were no March sales. Government sales are excluded, and so, on conditions, are quantities supplied free under the manufacturer's patient assistance programs. Where a manufacturer supplies a hospital or medical institution directly, that hospital or institution is treated as the stockist or distributor. A Table B drug launched after March 31, 2026 is priced on its current PTS/PTD. In the order's illustration, a formulation with a current MRP of ₹300 plus applicable GST and a PTS/PTD of ₹70 may have an MRP of no more than ₹100 plus applicable GST.

The revised prices come into effect from November 9, 2026. Manufacturers selling above the computed MRP must lower their price to no more than that figure, and those already below it keep their existing MRP. Within 7 days of the order's publication, manufacturers must submit the revised price information in Annexure I to NPPA and the concerned State Drug Controller, whether or not the MRP changes, and issue a price list in Form V through IPDMS. Non-submission is to be treated as non-reduction of MRP and leads to action to recover the overcharged amount. A manufacturer that does not comply with the order is liable to deposit the overcharged amount, its MRP less the computed MRP, both excluding GST, with interest. On NPPA's demand, manufacturers must produce evidence that they circulated the revised MRP list to dealers and retailers and advertised the reduction in leading newspapers, each within 7 days, created a Drugs (Prices Control) Order Matters section on their homepage, and submitted batch-

wise production details and the stock held by the company and distributors at publication. All manufacturers must also report the PTS/PTD and MRP of their formulations on NPPA's IPDMS portal.

The computed price applies even where a formulation is used for other therapeutic purposes, and earlier price orders fixing a ceiling price under paragraph 4 or a retail price under paragraphs 5 and 15 for the Table B drugs are superseded. The prices stay in force until further orders; manufacturers may take the annual increase under paragraph 20(1) of the DPCO, 2013 if they keep within the margin cap. Manufacturers must maintain production levels, seek NPPA's prior permission to lower average monthly production, and inform NPPA in Form IV at least six months before discontinuing production or import. Hospitals and medical institutions are to monitor MRPs and display the revised prices on their websites, and State Drug Controllers are to monitor compliance.

The order's pricing directions are addressed to manufacturers. Annexure I, the format for the revised prices, asks for the name and address of the manufacturer or importer and of the marketing company, if any. The order does not set a price for any product or brand: each manufacturer computes its own MRP by the formula. It is signed by Bhiva Ram Yadav, Assistant Director, under F. No. 8(152)/2026/D.P./NPPA-Div.-II.

Issued by	National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Document	Order S.O. 5690(E), under paragraph 19 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013
Dated	October 17, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5473, October 17, 2026
Applies to	Manufacturers of non-scheduled formulations containing any of the 137 anti-cancer drugs in Table B, alone or in combination, patented drugs included
Trade margin cap	30%
MRP formula	$PTS/PTD \times \{1 + (TM / (100 - TM))\} + \text{applicable GST}$, with TM not exceeding 30 and PTS/PTD for March 2026
Revised prices in effect from	November 9, 2026
Due within 7 days of publication	Annexure I to NPPA and the State Drug Controller; Form V price list through IPDMS

Left out of PTS/PTD	Government sales; quantities supplied free under patient assistance programs, on conditions
Supersedes	Earlier ceiling price and retail price orders under paragraphs 4, 5 and 15 for the Table B drugs
In force	Until further orders
Signed by	Bhiva Ram Yadav, Assistant Director

Table B: the 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs

Sr. No.	Name of the drug
1	Abemaciclib
2	Abiraterone acetate
3	Acalabrutinib
4	Afatinib
5	Alectinib
6	Alpelisib
7	Amivantamab
8	Anastrozole
9	Apalutamide
10	Asciminib
11	Atezolizumab
12	Avelumab
13	Axitinib
14	Azacitidine
15	Belantamab Mafodotin
16	Bevacizumab
17	Bosutinib
18	Brentuximab Vedotin
19	Brigatinib
20	Busulfan

21	Cabazitaxel
22	Cabozantinib (S) – Maleate
23	Capmatinib
24	Carfilzomib
25	Carmustine
26	Ceritinib
27	Cetuximab
28	Cladribine
29	Clofarabine
30	Crizotinib
31	Cytarabine
32	Dabrafenib
33	Dacomitinib
34	Daratumumab
35	Darolutamide
36	Dasatinib
37	Datopotamab Deruxtecan
38	Decitabine
39	Degarelix
40	Denosumab
41	Dostarlimab
42	Durvalumab
43	Elranatamab
44	Enfortumab vedotin
45	Entrectinib
46	Enzalutamide
47	Epirubicin
48	Erdafitinib

49	Eribulin mesylate
50	Erlotinib
51	Estramustine
52	Everolimus
53	Exemestane
54	Fludarabine
55	Fulvestrant
56	Gilteritinib
57	Goserelin acetate
58	Ibritumomab
59	Ibrutinib
60	Idelalisib
61	Ifosfamide & Mesna
62	Nivolumab and Relatimab
63	Pegylated Liposomal Irinotecan
64	Inotuzumab Ozogamicin
65	Interferon Alpha 2B
66	Ipilimumab
67	Ivosidenib
68	Lapatinib
69	Lazertinib
70	Lenvatinib
71	Lomustine
72	Lorlatinib
73	Lymphoseek kit
74	Megestrol
75	Midostrurin
76	Mirvetuximab soravtansine

77	Mitomycin
78	Mitoxantrone
79	Nelarabine
80	Netupitant
81	Nilotinib
82	Nimotuzumab
83	Nintedanib
84	Niraparib
85	Nivolumab
86	Obinutuzumab
87	Ofatumumab
88	Olaparib
89	Osimertinib
90	Palbociclib
91	Panitumumab (Vectibix)
92	Pazopanib (as Hydrochloride)
93	Pegasparginase
94	Pegfilgrastim
95	Pegylated interferon Alpha 2B
96	Pembrolizumab
97	Pemetrexed
98	Pertuzumab
99	Pertuzumab + Trastuzumab
100	Plerixafor
101	Polatuzumab Vedotin
102	Pomalidomide
103	Ramucirumab
104	Regorafenib

105	Relugolix
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106	Ribociclib
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107	Rucaparib
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108	Ruxolitinib
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109	Selpercatinib
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110	Selumetinib
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111	Serplulimab
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112	Sotorasib
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113	Sunitinib
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114	Talquetamab
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115	Teclistamab
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116	Tegafur + Uracil
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117	Tegafur, Gimeracil and Oteracil
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118	Temsirolimus
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119	Tepotinibe
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120	Thiotepa
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121	Tislelizumab
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122	Tocilizumab
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123	Topotecan
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124	Toripalimab
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125	Trabectedin
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126	Trametinib
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127	Tremelimumab
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128	Treosulfan
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129	Trifluridine + Tipiracil
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130	Triptorelin
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131	Tucatinib
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132	Vemurafenib
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133	Venetoclax
134	Vinorelbine tartrate
135	Vorasidenib
136	Zanubrutinib
137	Zolbetuximab

[The order](#) (PDF, 1.3 MB)

Source: [Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-17102026-277271](#).

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Read online: indusdesk.com/nppa/insights/trade-margins-on-137-anti-cancer-drugs-capped-at-30/