

Price fixation order of 108 drugs unaffected: NPPA

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THE National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that the Centre's recent decision to withdraw its power to fix prices of non-essential medicines would not affect its earlier order on prices of 108 drugs formulations.

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, by a September 22 notification, withdrew the earlier guidelines empowering the NPPA to fix prices of non-essential drugs. The NPPA told a bench headed by Chief Justice G Rohini that the Centre's notification would not come in the way of its July 10 order fixing the prices of 108 drug formulations, which include anti-diabetic and cardiovascular drugs as it applies "prospectively and not retrospectively".

"Impact of withdrawal of guidelines is prospective and not retrospective...the July 10 order remains (valid)...the prices fixed under that order will continue," Additional Solicitor General Sanjay Jain said.

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