

JAYEETA

Drug Pricing Policy may be Finalised Next Week

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The panel of ministers tasked with the mandate to finalise the country's drug pricing policy is expected to decide the crucial policy as early as next week after the apex court slammed the government for sitting on it for almost a decade.

Two government officials familiar with the development said the

Group of Ministers (GoM) plans to meet ahead of the next hearing date of the case on Sept 27 and finalise the policy. Agriculture minister Sharad Pawar, who heads the GoM, has suggested meeting next Thursday, depending on the availability of the nine members, they said. But since views are sharply divided between ministries and stakeholders, it is doubtful if a decision can be arrived in the meeting, one of them said.

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