

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3151
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28st MARCH, 2023**

MEDICINE FOR BREAST CANCER

3151 DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of active patients suffering from breast cancer in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that to buy patented three drugs abemaciclib, palbociclib and ribociclib, patients have to pay ₹ 6-12 lakh per annum to extend their life by 12 months; if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to invoke provisions in the Indian Patent laws to facilitate production of generic versions of the above three drugs, if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to provide affordable medicines to cancer patients?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a): As per the ICMR-National Cancer Registry Programme data, the estimated number of incidence of breast cancer in the country for the year 2022 is 216108.

(b) to (d): As per Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation(CDSCO, palbociclib has gone off patent on 10th Jan 2023.

As informed by Department of Pharmaceuticals, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority vide order S.O. 1041(E) dated 27th February, 2019, has put a cap on Trade Margin of 42 selected non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines on pilot basis under 'Trade Margin Rationalization' approach. Ribociclib was also included in this.

The Government of India has taken several measures to encourage domestic manufacturing of Pharmaceutical drugs including its APIs / bulk drugs (including those required cancer treatment) to boost domestic manufacturing. The major Programmatic interventions to support Pharma Industries include Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Pharmaceuticals and for the Bulk drugs, the schematic interventions are PLI scheme for Bulk Drugs and Bulk Drugs Parks scheme. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals launched in FY 2020 - 21 provides financial incentive to 55 selected applicants for manufacturing of approved eligible products under three categories including anti-cancer drugs (Product Category – 3) for a period of six years. One PLI applicant is manufacturing the Abemaciclib Intermediate and Ribociclib Intermediate under the sub-category of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients/ Key Starting materials/ Drug Intermediates.

Quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions, with an objective to make available Cancer drugs at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum Retail Price.
