

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th July, 2023

Janaushadhi Kendras in Himachal Pradesh

520 # Ms. Indu Bala Goswami:

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Janaushadhi Kendras opened in Himachal Pradesh so far;
- (b) the percentage by which the prices of medicines available at Janaushadhi Kendras are less as compared to branded medicines; and
- (c) whether doctors in Government hospitals have been directed to encourage patients to take generic medicines?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

(a): *Under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), about 61 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) have been opened in the State of Himachal Pradesh till 30.06.2023.*

(b): The medicines under the scheme are cheaper at least by 50% and in some cases, by 80% to 90% of the market price of branded medicines.

(c): Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 prescribes that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drug.

As informed by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the erstwhile MCI had issued circulars directing all Registered Medical Practitioners in the country to comply with the Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002. National Medical Commission Act, 2019 empowers the appropriate State Medical Councils or Ethics and Medical Registration Board of the Commission to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provision of the aforesaid Regulations. States have also been advised by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to ensure prescription of generic drugs and conduct regular prescription audits in public health facilities.
