

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2584#
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2025

Promotion of pharma sector in Jharkhand

2584 # Shri Pradip Kumar Varma:

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

- (a) the measures taken under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan to promote the establishment of the pharmaceutical industry in a State like Jharkhand and the district-wise impact thereof;
- (b) the central assistance provided to Jharkhand so far for research, quality control laboratories and training of youth in the pharma sector; and
- (c) the steps taken to increase the availability of affordable medicines in Jharkhand under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Number of schemes are being implemented to realise the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat in the pharmaceutical sector across the country, including in the State of Jharkhand. These include the following:

- (i) *Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (PRIP) scheme:* Under this, seven Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have been set up, one at each of the seven National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs), to create research infrastructure and promote R&D in identified areas. The CoEs have so far approved 104 research projects under the scheme and filed two patents. The scheme also provides support to industry and startups, including in collaboration with academia, for undertaking research and innovation projects in priority areas. As and when applications are invited under the scheme, applicants from any State, including the State of Jharkhand, can apply.
- (ii) *PLI Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs) / Drug Intermediates (DIs) / Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in India (also known as the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs):* As of June 2025, the committed investment of ₹3,938.5 crore under projects approved under the scheme for investment over the six-year production period of the scheme stands substantially exceeded with cumulative investment of ₹4,709 crore made under the scheme. Further, production capacity has been created for 26 APIs/KSMs/DIs. Under the scheme, till June 2025 cumulative sales of ₹1,962 crore have been reported over the period from FY2022-23 onward, including exports of ₹479 crore, thereby avoiding imports worth ₹1,483 crore.

- (iii) *Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals*: This scheme incentivises production of high-value medicines such as biopharmaceuticals, complex generic drugs, patented drugs or drugs nearing patent expiry, auto-immune drugs, anti-cancer drugs, etc. as well as production of APIs/KSMs/DIs other than those notified under the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs, thereby contributing to self-reliance. The scheme has enabled enhanced investment and production in eligible products. As of June 2025, the committed investment of ₹17,275 crore targeted over the six-year period of the scheme stands substantially exceeded with cumulative investment of ₹38,543 crore and cumulative sales of approved products of ₹2,89,606 crore have been made, including exports of ₹1,86,710 crore.
- (iv) *Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks*: Under this scheme, common infrastructure facilities have been approved for three parks that are at various stages of development in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. These parks would offer land and utilities such as power, water, effluent treatment plant, steam, solid waste management, warehouse facilities at a subsidised rate. The State Implementing Agencies of the three States are also offering fiscal incentives in the form of capital subsidy on fixed capital investment, interest subsidy, State Goods and Services Tax reimbursement, exemption of stamp duty and registration charges, etc. Further, the scheme provides that applicants for allotment of land in the parks to set up units for manufacturing products prioritised in the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs will have priority in land allotment. Pharmaceutical entities from all parts of the country, including from the State of Jharkhand, are eligible to apply for land allotment and production within these parks.
- (v) *Assistance to Pharmaceutical Industry for Common Facilities (API-CF) under the Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme*: This sub-scheme aims to strengthen the existing infrastructure facilities by providing financial assistance to pharmaceutical clusters for creation of common facilities. It helps create tangible assets as common facilities, such as testing labs, R&D labs, effluent treatment plants and training centres, thereby supporting the long-term viability and growth of the clusters by enabling them to develop and leverage shared resources. Under API-CF, projects with total grant-in-aid to the tune of ₹139.33 crore to pharmaceutical clusters have been approved for creation of common facilities and are at various stages of execution. Once these common facilities are created, they are expected to provide access to common facilities to around 1,300 existing pharmaceutical units, besides catalysing the augmentation of capacities at these clusters through the setting up of new pharmaceutical units and expansion of existing units. Pharmaceutical companies from anywhere in the country, including from the State of Jharkhand, may apply for assistance under this sub-scheme as and when the Department of Pharmaceuticals invites applications through its website.
- (vi) *Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS) under the Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme*: This sub-scheme aims to support upgrade of production facilities of small and medium pharmaceutical companies having average turnover of less than ₹500 crore, to attain the standards specified in the revised Schedule M to the Drugs Rules, 1945 and the World Health Organization — Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP), thereby improving their competitiveness, both domestically and globally. Under this, till 1.7.2025, support for upgrade to attain the said standards has been approved for 142 micro, small and medium pharmaceutical companies, with total sanctioned amount of ₹135.8 crore. Pharmaceutical companies from anywhere in the country, including from the State of Jharkhand, may apply for

RPTUAS in response to the invitation for applications that has been issued by the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

Enabled by these schemes, over the last six financial years, the export of drugs and pharmaceuticals has increased by 92%, from ₹1,28,028 crore in FY2018-19 to ₹2,45,962 crore in FY2024-25.

(b): The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a not-for-profit, section 8 public sector enterprise of the Department of Biotechnology is implementing Promoting Academic Research Conversion to Enterprise (PACE) scheme, under which an amount of ₹41.35 lakh has been sanctioned to the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Mesra, Ranchi in the State of Jharkhand for developing a low dose Acetazolamide tablet.

Further, the Scheme for Strengthening of the State Drug Regulatory System, implemented by the Department of Health and Family Welfare since 2015-16 aims to enhance the quality, safety, and efficacy of drugs and other medical products manufactured in India. It does this by upgrading existing state drug testing labs, establishing new ones, commissioning mobile drug testing laboratories, upgrading existing State Drugs Control Offices and providing manpower for both the offices and laboratories. Under the scheme, the approved project for the State of Jharkhand is worth ₹10.59 crore. Out of this, 60% Central share, that is ₹6.35 crore, has been released to the State, while the State Government has released ₹4.23 crore as the corresponding State share under the scheme. The project includes upgrade of the State Drug Testing Laboratory at Namkum in Ranchi, including purchase of equipment and their annual maintenance contract, meeting recurring cost, hiring of manpower and civil work for microbiology lab expansion.

(c): The Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana scheme to make quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all. Under the scheme, dedicated outlets known as Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) are opened across the country to provide medicines at prices that are about 50% to 80% lower than those of leading branded medicines in the market. 2,110 medicines and 315 surgicals, medical consumables and devices are under the scheme product basket, covering all major therapeutic groups, such as cardiovascular, anti-cancers, anti-diabetic, anti-infectives, anti-allergic and gastro-intestinal medicines and nutraceuticals. Till 30.6.2025, a total of 16,912 JAKs have been opened across the country, of which 163 JAKs have been opened in the State of Jharkhand.
