

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1070  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**INCLUSION OF GLP-1 RECEPTOR AGONISTS IN THE COUNTRY**

**1070. SHRI JAGGESH:**

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that GLP-1 receptor agonists are essential for improving diabetes control in the country, with over 100 million diabetic patients;
- (b) whether GLP-1 receptor agonists remain inaccessible to most Indian patients because of their patented status and high cost;
- (c) whether the WHO's inclusion of GLP-1 receptor agonists in the essential medicines list will influence India's decision to revise its own National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM);
- (d) whether Government proposes to bring GLP-1 receptor agonists under national public health insurance schemes like Ayushman Bharat; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that the essential medicines list prepared by World Health Organization (WHO) is a prototype list that can be used as a template by individual countries. Since priority health care needs of countries differ, it is logical that each country shall have its own country specific Essential Medicines List (EML). Socio-demographic factors and economy are other factors that are likely to influence composition of EML for any country.

The process of revision of National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) involves several rounds of consultation meetings with subject experts, various stakeholders including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), patient groups, civil society organizations, pharmaceutical industry, manufacturing associations, concerned government departments and organizations. NLEM, 2022 already enlists the multiple drugs used in Diabetes treatment which include Glimepiride, Insulin in different forms, Metformin and Teneligliptin.

Further, Drugs Regulation Division of Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW) has informed that various GLP-1 receptor agonist drugs such as Semaglutide, Dulaglutide, Liraglutide, Tirzepatide, Exenatide, Lixisenatide have been approved with the indication to improve glycemic control in patients with type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. ICMR has also informed that the patents for semaglutide will begin to expire in 2026 in various countries including India.

(d) and (e): National Health Authority has informed that there is no such proposal to include GLP-1 receptor agonists under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

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