

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2827
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH, 2026**

INVESTING IN HEALTH, BOOSTING ECONOMY

2827. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

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

- (a) the detailed roadmap for the newly launched ₹10,000 crore Biopharma SHAKTI initiative and the specific timeline for establishing 1,000 accredited clinical trial sites across the country;
- (b) the roadmap for establishing 1,000 accredited clinical trial sites and the scientific review cadre within the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) to accelerate indigenous medical innovation; and
- (c) the steps taken to integrate Artificial Intelligence and Digital Health under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) to improve predictive healthcare and reduce the urban-rural diagnostic gap across the nation?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): As informed by Department of Pharmaceuticals, with a view to strengthen the domestic biopharmaceutical sector and enhance global competitiveness in biologics and biosimilars, the Government has announced the Biopharma SHAKTI scheme with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore over five years with an objective to build a globally competitive domestic ecosystem for biologics and biosimilars to support affordable healthcare in India and enable India to emerge as a global biopharma manufacturing and innovation hub.

The Biopharma SHAKTI has the following components:

- i. Biopharma Discovery Grant Fund & Discovery & Development Equity Fund
- ii. Biopharma-focused NIPER Network + National Biopharma R&D Network
- iii. India Clinical Trial Sites Network (1,000 accredited sites)
- iv. Fermentation-based Bulk Drugs & Building Blocks Manufacturing Incentive
- v. Biopharma Delivery Devices & Packaging Manufacturing Ecosystem
- vi. Biosimilars & Emerging Biologics Manufacturing Initiative

vii. Regulatory Strengthening of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

The roadmap for above components include industry stakeholder consultation, scheme design and approval of Council of Ministers.

(c): The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was launched by the Government of India in September 2021 to support the development of an integrated, citizen-centric national digital health ecosystem. Under ABDM, creation of digitized records is promoted, thereby making them usable for data analytics and Artificial Intelligence. In addition, the Strategy for AI in Healthcare in India (SAHI) and the Benchmarking Open Data Platform for Health AI (BODH) have also been launched during the recent India AI Impact Summit. SAHI is a national guidance framework to enable the safe, ethical, evidence-based, responsible and inclusive adoption of Artificial Intelligence across India's healthcare system. Benchmarking Open Data Platform for Health AI (BODH) has been developed in partnership with IIT Kanpur and provides a structured mechanism for testing and benchmarking AI solutions before deployment at scale.
