

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2101
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31st July, 2018

Trade of Generic Medicines

2101. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of India's share in the global trade of generic pharmaceuticals;
- (b) the total quantity and value of production of generic pharmaceuticals along with the quantity and value of such products exported and imported during the last three years and the current year, category-wise;
- (c) the share of generic and non-generic medicines to the total sales of medicines in the country including in the Government hospitals; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote the use of generic medicines and the outcome of such steps, if any?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS;
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)**

(a): As per the information received from Department of Commerce, total global generic market was estimated to be around USD 302 bn in 2017 and India's export of generic pharmaceuticals during the same period is USD 12.90 bn (Drug Formulations & Biologicals).

(b): Information about production of generic pharmaceuticals is not available. However, the export and import figures of Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and allied products for the last 3 years and current year is as under:

India's Pharma Exports \$ million				
Category	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 Up to June
AYUSH	111.18	123.67	144.36	34.46
BULK DRUGS AND DRUG INTERMEDIATES	3597.28	3383.52	3539.38	932.78
DRUG FORMULATIONS AND BIOLOGICALS	12647.84	12666.44	12908.76	3375.43
Herbal Products	252.81	278.02	311.50	84.38
SURGICALS	302.90	333.36	371.81	141.44
Grand Total	16912.01	16785.00	17275.80	4568.49

India's Pharma exports By quantities in Kgs				
Caegory	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	April-May 2018
AYUSH AND HERBAL PRODUCTS	95874113	83357976	89844622	169501198
BULK DRUGS, DRUG INTERMEDIATES	351383457	327154301	345313090	60944828
DRUG FORMULATIONS, BIOLOGICALS	375083930	352117517	320290646	50904284
Grand Total	822341500	762629794	755448358	128799310

India's Pharmaceutical imports						
Description	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
	Value \$ Mn	Qty Kgs	Value \$ Mn	Qty Kgs	Value \$ Mn	Qty Kgs
AYUSH AND HERBAL PRODUCTS	54.13	11668422	53.50	11668422	60.92	13625853
BULK DRUGS, DRUG INTERMEDIATES	3214.17	268437081	2712.88	268437081	2993.26	310002111
DRUG FORMULATIONS, BIOLOGICALS	1334.24	2969745	1444.87	2969745	1840.78	9142244
SURGICALS	571.90	735212051	553.47	735212051	585.73	-
Grand Total	5174.44	1018287299	4764.71	1018287299	5480.69	332770208

(c): The specific share of generic (branded as well as unbranded) and non-generic medicines to the total sales of medicines in the country including in the Government hospitals is not maintained in the Department. However, 98% of the medicines sold in India are off-patent (patent expired) and therefore generic medicines only.

(d): The Government is taking various steps to promote the use of generic medicines in the country.

Directions were issued to doctors for prescribing low-cost generic drugs to the patients. The details are as follows:

- (i) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare vide their Circular dated 08.04.2015 has directed all the specialists/doctors working in CGHS to ensure that generic drugs are prescribed to the maximum extent possible with a view to make medical treatment cost effective and affordable.
- (ii) The Medical Council of India has amended the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 on 08.10.2016 to provide a new para 1.5 : "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 drugs."
- (iii) Director, CGHS has vide Office Memorandum dated 08.09.2017, issued instructions to all CGHS Wellness Centres to ensure that prescription is only by generic name wherever generic drugs are available.

In order to make generic medicines more accessible, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has requested all the States/Union Territories to explore and enforce the proposal of keeping a separate shelf/rack for generic medicines in every pharmacy in the country.

Further, Government is successfully operating a scheme in the name of 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana' (PMBJP) for providing quality, unbranded generic medicines at affordable prices in the country. As on 26.07.2018, 3883 PMBJP Kendras are functional in 34 States/Union Territories of the country.

With these measures, the use of unbranded generics is on the increase in the country and it is now estimated at 7% of the domestic market share.

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