

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. †2277  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2018

**Promoting Generic Medicines**

**†2277. SHRI HARI MANJHI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme/proposal to set up Jan Aushadhi Kendras in all medical colleges, district hospitals and all private hospitals to promote the use of generic medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Medical Association and the Medical Council of India have been consulted for the purpose of promoting the use of generic medicines in the country; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

**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) & (b) Yes Madam. A countrywide scheme namely 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana' (PMBJP) was launched by the Government in the year 2008 under which quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all through specific outlets, called PMBJP Kendras. Under PMBJP, an one-time financial assistance of Rs. 2.5 lakhs is provided to open PMBJP Kendra in any Government Hospital/Medical College or in any Government owned building premises. A provision of providing incentives upto Rs. 2.5 lakhs at the rate of 15% of monthly sales subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10,000/- per month is also available for PMBJP Kendras run by NGOs, Charitable Institutions/Hospitals, Private Hospitals, Trusts, Societies, Self Help Groups and Individual Entrepreneurs.

(c) & (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.

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