

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1283  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2018

**Indigenous Drugs**

†1283. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote the use of indigenous drugs during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has worked out/proposes to work out any scheme to make generic drugs accessible in the country and if so, the details thereof; (c) whether the Government has identified such places where there is a huge shortage of generic drugs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**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): Following steps have been taken by the Government to promote the use of domestically manufactured drugs and medicines:

- (i) National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) was notified with the objective to put in place a regulatory framework for pricing of drugs so as to ensure availability of required medicines – “essential medicines” at reasonable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of pharma industry thereby meeting the goals of employment and shared economic well-being for all.
- (ii) In order to promote and to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all through specific outlets, a scheme in the name of ‘Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana’ (PMBJP) is functioning across the country.
- (iii) In order to promote domestically manufactured drugs, the Government is providing financial support for research and development through Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP) run by the Department of Science & Technology. The companies undertaking Research & Development activities are provided income tax benefits.

- (iv) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013, Para-32(iii) provides exemptions from price control to a manufacturer producing a new drug involving a new delivery system developed through indigenous Research and Development for a period of five years from the date of its market approval in India.
- (v) The government vide its notification dated 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 has withdrawn exemption of customs duty on certain categories on Bulk Drugs/APIs to provide level playing field to the domestic manufacturers.

(b): 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. Under this Scheme dedicated outlets known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) are opened to provide generic medicines. As on 13.12.2018, 4,571 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras have been opened, across the country.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): In view of reply (c) above, the question does not arise.

(e): Under PMBJP Scheme a target has been set to open at least one PMBJP Kendra in every district of the country.

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