

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4510
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th January, 2019

Bulk Drug Manufacturers

4510. DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

- (a) whether India is the world's leading bulk drug manufacturer till about 10 years back and if so, the facts in this regard;
- (b) whether presently a very large percentage of bulk drug requirement are sourced from China;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the percentage of drugs out of the total requirement imported from China during the last three year, year-wise;
- (d) whether the experts have expressed their concerns over the security risk and financial stress of the manufacturers of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to revive the drugs sector and introduce a bulk drug policy in the country; and
- (g) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken 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): India has been importing Bulk Drugs/Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) which are required for the manufacture of certain drugs including some essential medicines in the country. The country is dependent on imports of bulk drugs/Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) from China for producing certain essential medicines.
- (b) & (c): As per data available from the various Port Offices of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), the details of the percentage of bulk drugs imported from China are as under:

Year	Percentage (in terms of value)
2015	66.14%
2016	56.62%
2017	68.62%

(d) to (g): The Government, taking into account the drug security of the country, had set up a high level Committee on 8th October, 2013 headed by Dr. V. M. Katoch, the then Secretary, Department of Health Research, which had the mandate to carefully study the whole issue of APIs of critical importance by identifying important APIs and then working out a package of interventions/concessions required to build domestic production capabilities and examine the cost implications. Based on the recommendations of the Committee it has been decided to finance common facilities in bulk drug parks which would reduce the cost of production and in turn it would reduce the cost of medicines which would be available to the patients. In this connection, the Department has prepared a scheme for providing Assistance to Bulk Drug Industry for Common Facilities. No separate bulk drug policy is proposed.

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