

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 404
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05th February, 2019

Generic Medicines

†404. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for using/promoting indigenously manufactured drugs and medicines during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any plan/proposes to work out any plan for making generic medicines accessible in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has identified such places where huge shortage of generic medicines persists; and
- (e) if so, the details 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): 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(v) The government vide its notification dated 28th January, 2016 has withdrawn exemption of customs duty on certain categories on Bulk Drugs/APIs to provide level playing field to the domestic manufacturers.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) & (c): 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 29.01.2019, 4,964 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras have been opened, across the country.

(d): No, Madam.

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

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