

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1550
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th February, 2023

Prescription of Generic Medicines

†1550. SHRI AJAY NISHAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made it mandatory/contemplates to make it mandatory for the doctors to prescribe low-priced generic medicines to the patients;
- (b) if, so the details thereof and the steps taken/ being proposed to be taken by the Government for monitoring of the drugs and medicines being prescribed by the doctors and sold by the pharmacies;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any step to promote the use of indigenously manufactured drugs and medicines; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

(a) to (d): As per the information received from the Department of Health and Family Welfare which administers this subject, Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 states that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters. Further, the erstwhile Medical Council of India (MCI) had issued Circulars from time to time vide which all the Registered Medical Practitioners have been directed to comply with the aforesaid provisions.

The National Medical Commission Act, 2019, empowers the State Medical Councils/ Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) of the Commission to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provision of the aforesaid Regulations. When complaints are received against the violation of code of ethics for doctors, such complaints are referred by EMRB (previously by erstwhile MCI) to the concerned State Medical Councils where the doctors/medical practitioners are registered. States are advised to ensure prescription of generic drugs in public health facilities.

Under free drug initiative of National Health Mission (NHM), support is provided for provision of essential generic drugs free of cost in the public health facilities.

In order to provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all citizens, especially the poor and the deprived ones, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) has been launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals wherein about 9,082 dedicated outlets known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) have been opened till 31.01.2023. A mobile application 'Janaushadhi Sugam' provides information to public about location of kendras, help them search Janaushadhi medicines and compare the MRP of Generic vs. Branded medicines, etc.
