

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2969
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17th MARCH, 2023

Self-reliance in Pharmaceuticals and Biopharma

2969. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

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

- (a) whether the Government agrees to the view that India need to make exponential investments in Research and Development (R&D), manufacturing, and digital transformations to become a global pharmaceutical innovation hub as well as achieve its vision of self-reliance in pharmaceuticals and biopharma;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in view the fact that India's current public expenditure on R&D remains low, at less than one percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. Realizing the importance of Pharma innovation, the Hon'ble Finance Minister in her Budget speech 2023-24 has announced that a new Programme to promote research and innovation in pharmaceuticals will be taken up through Centres of Excellence. She had further informed the House that the government shall also encourage industry to invest in research and development in specific priority areas.

Pursuant thereto, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has formulated a Scheme for 'Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (PRIP)' having two components, viz., strengthening the research infrastructure by establishment of Centres of Excellences (CoEs) at seven existing National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPERs) and to provide financial assistance for the companies working with Govt. Institutes and for doing in-house R&D in specified moon-shot areas.

In addition, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has already set up seven National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPERs) all over the country to run postgraduate and doctorate courses and undertake high-end research in the pharma sector. An amount of Rs. 1,500 cr has been approved for implementation of the scheme of NIPER during the period 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Further, in order to encourage domestic manufacturing, reduce import dependence and ensure technology up-gradation, the Department is implementing the following schemes:

- i. Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/ Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active

- Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) with a financial outlay of Rs. 6,940 crores with a tenure from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2029-30;
- ii. Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Pharmaceuticals with a financial outlay of Rs. 15,000 crores and the tenure from FY 2020- 2021 to FY 2028-29;
 - iii. Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks with a financial outlay of Rs. 3,000 crores and tenure from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2024-25; and
 - iv. Scheme of Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry (SPI) with a financial outlay of Rs. 500 crores and the tenure from FY 2021-2022 to FY 2025-26.
