

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3928
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH MARCH, 2023

Availability of Essential Medicines at JAKs

†3928. **SHRI SANJAY SETH:**
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) the number of Government hospitals in India which do not have Jan Aushadhi stores at present, State/UT/district-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that out of the list of 361 most essential medicines, the PMBJP scheme only covers 130 and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAK) in India are facing shortage in the supply of essential medicines and are unevenly distributed across geographies and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address the issues;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that there is poor awareness among the neediest people about JAKs and also, there is reluctance of doctors to prescribe generic medicines to patients, which is hindering the success of Jan Aushadhi stores;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make available costly medicines of various diseases at cheaper rates?

ANSWER

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

(a): Out of 9,182 *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) opened across the country, about 1,152 PMBJKs have been opened in the Government premises across the country. State/UT-wise list of PMBJKs, opened in Government Hospitals / Government Premises is enclosed as **Annexure**. The details of Government hospitals in the country not having Jan Aushadhi stores are, however, not maintained.

(b) and (c): The product basket of PMBI presently consists of 1,759 drugs, which include all essential medicines and the same are generally available at the Kendras. The availability of medicines is ensured by Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), the Implementing Agency of the Scheme through implementation of an Information Technology (IT) enabled End-to-End supply chain system and SAP based inventory management system and a strong network of four warehouses and 36 distributors spread all across the country.

(d) & (e): In order to promote the scheme, the Department of Pharmaceuticals and PMBI periodically requests State /UT Governments/ district administrations to create awareness about the scheme and provide rent free space for opening *Janaushadhi Kendras* in Community Health Centre (CHC)/ Primary Health Centre (PHC)/ Government Hospitals. PMBI also spreads awareness about the scheme through advertisements in Print Media, Radio, TV & Cinema as well as Outdoor publicity like Hoardings, Bus Queue Shelter branding, Bus branding, Auto wrapping, etc. In addition, public is educated about the benefits of *Jan Aushadhi* generic medicines and the scheme through social media platforms regularly. Further, *Jan Aushadhi Diwas* is celebrated every year on 7th March for further dissemination and spreading awareness about the scheme. In addition, the Department of Pharmaceuticals makes regular efforts for encouraging prescription of generic drugs by requesting the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to direct the Government doctors to prescribe generic medicines only.

(f): 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) is being implemented by the government. Further the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority fixes ceiling prices of scheduled drugs sold in the market and has also applied cap on trade margins in respect of certain anti cancer drugs in 2019.

Statement referred to in part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 3928 for answer on 24.03.2023 raised by SHRI SANJAY SETH, SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA, SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI, SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY regarding Availability of Essential Medicines at JAKs

State/UT-wise list of PMBJK's opened across the country till 28.02.2023				
Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of PMBJK functional	Govt	Private
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	9	9	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	146	21	125
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	29	23	6
4.	Assam	110	5	105
5.	Bihar	359	74	285
6.	Chandigarh	9	6	3
7.	Chhattisgarh	200	147	53
8.	Delhi	387	7	380
9.	Goa	11	6	5
10.	Gujarat	521	2	519
11.	Haryana	232	8	224
12.	Himachal Pradesh	60	15	45
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	220	159	61
14.	Jharkhand	84	19	65
15.	Karnataka	1050	198	852
16.	Kerala	977	5	972
17.	Ladakh	2	2	0
18.	Lakshadweep *	0	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	272	6	266
20.	Maharashtra	640	17	623
21.	Manipur	35	25	10
22.	Meghalaya	16	7	9
23.	Mizoram	12	3	9
24.	Nagaland	20	18	2
25.	Odisha	398	14	384
26.	Puducherry	20	0	20
27.	Punjab	314	32	282
28.	Rajasthan	149	43	106
29.	Sikkim	4	0	4
30.	Tamil Nadu	872	2	870
31.	Telangana	179	3	176
32.	DNH & D&D	35	0	35
33.	Tripura	25	23	2
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1325	177	1148
35.	Uttarakhand	223	75	148
36.	West Bengal	237	1	236
Grand Total		9,182	1,152	8,030

* Medicines are directly supplied to the administration of UT of Lakshwadeep
