

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4139
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH MARCH, 2023

Consumption of Generic Medicines

**4139. SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:
SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):**

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

- (a) the total consumption of generic medicines in the country in the last three years, State/UT-wise and year-wise; and
(b) the action plan that has been prepared by the Government to increase production and to provide cheap and quality medicines to the public?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per information provided by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, the total sale of medicines by stockists/ dealers to retailers in the country is estimated as under:

Year	Sales Value (in Cr.)
2019-2020	1,44,485.08
2020-2021	1,47,586.41
2021-2022	1,69,234.82
April 2022 - December 2022	1,40,865.31

No separate data, is however, maintained regarding consumption of generic medicines in the country.

- (b):
- i. Department of Pharmaceuticals has taken various steps for increasing production of drugs in the country. In order to encourage the domestic manufacturing of pharmaceutical drugs, including generic medicines, two Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes have been launched, viz., *PLI Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/ Drug Intermediates (DIs)/ Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)* within an outlay of Rs. 6,940 crores and *PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals* with an outlay of Rs. 15,000 cr.
 - ii. 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 9,182 dedicated outlets known as *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) have been opened till 28.02.2023.

- iii. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also taken various regulatory measures to promote and ensure the quality of generic medicines. These include instructions to Licensing Authorities to grant/ renew licenses to manufacture for sale or for distribution of drugs in proper/generic names only, amendment in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for making it mandatory to grant license for a drug formulation containing single active ingredient in proper name only, and inclusion of provision in the said Rules for submission of the result of bioequivalence study along with application for grant of manufacturing license in the case of certain drugs.
- iv. Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 prescribes that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drug. Registered Medical Practitioners have been directed from time to time to comply with the aforesaid provisions. States have also been advised to ensure prescription of generic drugs and conduct regular prescription audits in public health facilities.
- v. Further, under National Health Mission (NHM), support is provided for providing essential generic drugs free of cost in public health facilities.
