

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4939
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31st MARCH, 2023

Shortage of Medicines at JAKs

4939. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:

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

- (a) the reasons for non-integration of the list of medicines at Jan Aushadhi stores with the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), considering that NLEM is based on the priority healthcare needs of the country;
- (b) whether it is true that most Jan Aushadhi stores have been reported to have medicines missing or not available;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent any shortage of medicines at these stores; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring awareness about these stores among the underprivileged sections in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a): The product basket of *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana* (PMBJP) consists of 1,759 medicines and 280 surgical devices as on 28.02.2023. Based on feedback of various stakeholders, market demand and recommendations of an expert committee, the product basket is reviewed regularly and expanded. PMBI has informed that few medicines in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) have not been included in the product basket under the scheme as the same are either covered in various National Health programmes or there is no demand for the same at retail counters.

(b) & (c): The availability of medicines in the product basket at the *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) 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): 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 various social media platforms regularly. Further, *Jan Aushadhi Diwas* is celebrated every year on 7th March for further dissemination and spreading awareness about the scheme.
