

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 431
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st July, 2023

Jan Aushadhi Kendras

†431. **SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:**

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

- (a) whether medicines are being provided to the general public at affordable rates through Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMJAKs);
- (b) whether due to the indifference of the officers, the general public is not getting maximum benefits of this Scheme in Darbhanga as very few number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras has been opened there and the applications for opening the said centres are unnecessarily being kept pending;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendras in operation in Darbhanga and the action plan for opening maximum number of such centres in the said area?

ANSWER

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

(a): With an objective of making quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all citizens, especially the poor and the deprived ones, *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana* (PMBJP) was launched by the Government. Under the Scheme, dedicated outlets known as *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) are opened to provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices. The price of Janaushadhi medicines are cheaper by 50% to 90% of the average market price of the branded medicines.

(b) to (d): Applications for opening of PMBJKs are invited online by the Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), the implementing agency of the scheme and the same are examined as per the scheme guidelines. PMBI has invited online applications from 651 different districts of the country, including Darbhanga district for opening of PMBJKs. At present there are 11 PMBJKs in Darbhanga and no application from the district is pending with PMBI for opening of PMBJK.

The Government has fixed a target for opening 10,000 PMBJKs by March, 2024. However, there is no State-wise and UT-wise specific target for opening of new PMBJKs.
