

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 666
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2024**

Operation of Jan Aushadhi Kendra

666. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION (सहकारिता मंत्री) be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACs) were allowed to operate Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether more than 4,400 PACs/cooperative societies from 34 States/Union Territories have submitted their online applications on the portal for this initiative and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether more than 2,300 cooperative societies have already received initial approval and 1491 of them are ready to function as Jan Aushadhi Kendras and if so, the details thereof;

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)**

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. PACS have been allowed by the Government to operate Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (GOI). Under this scheme, PACS can now apply online for opening PMBJKs. PACS functioning as PMBJKs will be able to provide generic medicines at affordable prices to rural citizens, which are 50%-90% less than that of branded medicines in the open market.

So far, 4,629 PACS/Cooperative Societies from 34 States/UTs have submitted their online applications on the Department of Pharmaceuticals (GOI) portal for this initiative, out of which, 2,475 cooperative societies have received initial approval from Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), Department of Pharmaceuticals (GOI). Out of 2,475 initial approvals given to PACS/ Cooperative Societies, 617 drug licenses have been issued by the State Drug Controllers, which are ready to function as Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
