

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1049
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd December, 2021

Price of Branded and Generic Medicines

†1049. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:

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

- (a) the reasons for difference between the prices of branded and generic medicines in the country;
- (b) whether the companies are free to decide the prices of branded medicines or there is any institutional pricing mechanism for this;
- (c) the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras opened under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) for the purpose of providing generic medicines to the patients, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether medicines are not available at generic drug centres due to which patients are compelled to buy branded medicines, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the amount spent on promoting PMBJP in the last five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) regulates the price of drugs as per provisions of Drugs Price Control Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) based upon the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP, 2012), which follows the principles of essentiality and market-based pricing. The DPCO, 2013 mandates the fixation of ceiling price based on average price in the market in respect of scheduled formulations (branded or generic) listed in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) and allows an annual price rise based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI). DPCO, 2013 further mandates monitoring of retail price fixed by manufacturers in respect of non-scheduled formulations (branded or generic) allowing an annual price increase of up to 10%. Instances of overcharging are dealt with by NPPA under the relevant provisions of DPCO 2013.

(c): Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) implemented by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, as on 28.11.2021, about 8,533 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) are functional across the country, covering all districts of the country. State/UT wise list of PMBJKs is at **Annexure**.

(d): The product basket of PMBJP comprises 1,451 medicines and 240 surgical and consumables. Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) makes regular efforts for

making all the drugs of its product basket available to the consumers. Floating tenders are issued regularly by PMBI as an ongoing process for required medicines to avoid any stock-out situation.

(e): The details of the amount spent for promoting PMBJP scheme during the last five financial years are as under:

Financial Year	Amount in Rs.
2016-17	Rs. 2.61 Cr.
2017-18	Rs. 4.74 Cr.
2018-19	Rs. 6.60 Cr.
2019-20	Rs. 5.70 Cr.
2020-21	Rs. 13.62 Cr.
Total	Rs. 33.27 Cr.

Annexure

Annexure referred in Reply to Part (c) of the Unstarred Question No. 1049 on 'Price of Branded and Generic Medicines'

State-wise/UT wise list of PMBJP Kendra, across the country as on 28.11.2021		
Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of PMBJP kendras functional
1	Andaman & Nicobar	3
2	Andhra Pradesh	183
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28
4	Assam	86
5	Bihar	271
6	Chandigarh	7
7	Chhattisgarh	241
8	Delhi	374
9	Goa	10
10	Gujarat	551
11	Haryana	231
12	Himachal Pradesh	63
13	Jammu And Kashmir	119
14	Jharkhand	75
15	Karnataka	954
16	Kerala	935
17	Ladakh	2
18	Lakshadweep*	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	239
20	Maharashtra	623
21	Manipur	33
22	Meghalaya	15
23	Mizoram	22
24	Nagaland	16
25	Odisha	344
26	Puducherry	18
27	Punjab	302
28	Rajasthan	137
29	Sikkim	3
30	Tamil Nadu	858
31	Telangana	157
32	Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	36
33	Tripura	24
34	Uttar Pradesh	1177
35	Uttarakhand	214
36	West Bengal	182
Total		8533
* Medicines are directly supplied to administration of Union Territory of Lakshadweep		
