

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1423
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

Cost of Medical Devices

1423 Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske:
Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde:
Shri Praveen Patel:
Smt. Daggubati Purandeswari:
Shri Haribhai Patel:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has set up any mechanism to provide access to affordable and dependable medical imaging solutions considering its high cost and low availability;
- (b) the steps taken and progress made in this field in alignment with the concept of 'Make in India-Made for the World';
- (c) whether India has emerged among the world's top five healthcare manufacturers;
- (d) whether Medical Devices are considered as one of the sunrise sectors in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to make India its manufacturing hub?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

**विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह)**

(a), (b) & (e): Yes, Sir. The Government of India has taken several measures to develop affordable and dependable medical imaging solutions in the country. Imaging technologies that have been commercialized include:

- 3nethra classic- Digital non-mydratic fundus camera for retinal imaging. The device has been used to perform 2.5+ million screenings; over 2600 devices have been sold out in over 28 countries.
- The 3nethra neo- Another version of the device, a compact, portable, advanced wide-field digital imaging system to identify ocular diseases, has been used to screen Retinopathy of Prematurity (RoP) in new born and is sold at one-fifth of the price of imported device. Over 10000 screenings have been completed with this device and over 100 products sold in 9 countries.
- Indigenous lightweight, compact, high field Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner.

Various imaging technologies prototypes for cancer screening, endoscopy, etc. are at clinical validation stages.

In order to align with 'Make in India- Made for the World', the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), promote and accelerate Research & Development in this field and provide an enabling platform for academics, Start-ups, and related organizations to convert the laboratory level prototypes into packaged models and help in transfer of technology for commercialization.

Further, the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a not-for-profit, Section 8, Public Sector Enterprise set up by the DBT offers various schemes and mission programs for biotech Start-ups, industries as well as partnering academic organizations for supporting development of medical devices, including affordable medical imaging solutions.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals, has taken following steps to promote Make-in-India and make a manufacturing hub in medical devices:

- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for "Promoting Domestic Manufacturing of Medical Devices" with total financial outlay Rs. 3,420 crore and tenure from FY 2020-2021 to 2027-28, provides incentive to selected companies at the rate of 5% on incremental sales of medical devices manufactured in India, for a period of five years. The four target segments covered under the scheme include Radiology & Imaging medical devices (both ionizing & non-ionizing radiation products) and Nuclear Imaging devices. Under the scheme, domestic manufacturing of high-end medical devices has started which include Linear Accelerator, MRI Scan, CT-Scan, Mammogram, C-Arm, MRI Coils, etc.
- The scheme "Promotion of Medical Devices Parks", with a total financial outlay of Rs. 400 crore provides for the maximum financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore each to 4 selected States/Union Territories, for creation of Common Infrastructure Facilities in the upcoming Medical Devices Parks. Under the scheme, final approval for financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore each were

given to the States of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.

- Scheme for Assistance to the Medical Devices Clusters for the Common Facilities and Establishing / Strengthening of testing facilities for the medical devices has also been launched with financial outlay of Rs. 300 crore, for three years period, to support 12 Common Infrastructure Facilities in the medical devices clusters and to establish 12 testing facilities.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Medical device sector has been recognized as one of the sunrise sectors in the country. India is one of the fastest growing markets in the global medical devices industry. India is the 4th largest Asian medical devices market after Japan, China, and South Korea and among the top 20 global medical devices markets in the world.
