GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4732 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH 2025

Scheme for Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry

4732. Shri Malaiyarasan D:

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

(a) the details of the 'Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry' Scheme launched by the Government, including its objectives and key components;

(b) the funds allocated for the implementation of this scheme across the country and the amount disbursed so far to various pharmaceutical companies and institutions;

(c) the steps being taken to enhance the capacity of the pharmaceutical sector to meet domestic and global demand for medicines, including the promotion of generic drugs and affordable medicines;

(d) the impact of this scheme on the growth of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and on the availability of quality medicines to the common people; and

(e) the measures taken to encourage innovation, research and development and manufacturing of high-tech medicines, including vaccines and biologics, under the scheme?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Details of the components of the Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme, along with their objectives, are as follows:

- (i) Assistance to Pharmaceutical Industry for Common Facilities (APICF): To strengthen the existing infrastructure facilities by providing financial assistance to pharmaceutical clusters for creation of common facilities;
- (ii) Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS): To support the upgrade of production facilities of small and medium pharmaceutical companies having average turnover of less than ₹ 500 crore, to attain the standards specified in the revised Schedule M to the Drugs Rules, 1945 and the World Health Organization Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP); and
- (iii) Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Promotion and Development Scheme (PMPDS): To promote knowledge and awareness in and about the pharmaceutical industry by taking up studies, building databases and sponsoring events for knowledge and experience sharing within the pharmaceutical industry.

(b): Details of the fund allocated for the scheme and the amount disbursed till date are at Annexure.

(c) to (e): Details of major steps and measures taken to enhance the capacity of the pharmaceutical sector to meet domestic and global demand for medicines, including promotion

of generic drugs and affordable medicines, and to encourage innovation, research and development and manufacturing of high-tech medicines, along with their impact, are as follows:

- (i) The Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme has been launched. Under the scheme, seven projects have been approved for creation of common facilities with total grant-in-aid to the tune of ₹ 121.47 crore to pharmaceutical clusters, against which an amount of ₹ 94.91 crore has been disbursed till 25.3.2025. Further, support for upgrade to attain the standards specified in the revised Schedule M to the Drugs Rules, 1945 and WHO-GMP has been approved for 103 small and medium pharmaceutical companies, with total sanctioned amount of ₹ 105.01 crore till 25.03.2025.
- (ii) The Production Link Incentive (PLI) scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs) / Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in India ("PLI scheme for bulk drugs") has been launched. Under the scheme, 34 projects have been commissioned for 25 bulk drugs, including penicillin G, clavulanic acid, prednisolone, olmesartan, sulfadiazine, atorvastatin, carbamazepine etc. Against committed investment of ₹3,938.57 crore, investment worth ₹4,253.92 crore has been realised under the scheme. As of December 2024, applicants under the scheme have made cumulative sales worth ₹1,556.04 crore, including exports worth ₹412.42 crore.
- (iii) The PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals has been launched for production of formulations and bulk drugs other than those notified under the PLI scheme for bulk drugs. Under the scheme, financial incentive is provided to 55 selected applicants for manufacturing identified products under three product categories. As of December 2024, cumulative sales worth ₹ 2,34,569.27 crore have been made under the scheme, including exports worth ₹ 1,49,420 crore.
- (iv) The Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks has been launched for creation of common infrastructure facilities for production of bulk drugs at optimised cost. Under the scheme, three bulk drug parks have been approved for development, one each in Bharuch (Gujarat), Nakkapalli (Andhra Pradesh) and Una (Himachal Pradesh) districts. Government of India has approved financial assistance to the tune of ₹1,000 crore for each of the said parks. The parks are at different stages of development.
- (v) Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushadi Pariyojana scheme has been launched for making quality generic medicines widely available. Under this, quality generic medicines are made available through a network of over 15,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras at maximum retail prices (MRPs) that are about 50% to 80% lower than MRPs of leading branded medicines in the market. In the last 10 years, medicines worth ₹6,975 crore in MRP terms have been sold through JAKs, resulting in estimated savings of about ₹30,000 crore to citizens in comparison to the prices of branded medicines.
- (vi) The Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma and MedTech sector scheme has been launched with an outlay of ₹5,000 crore over a period of five years ending with the financial year 2027-28, to promote and incentivise research and innovation in six identified areas, which include development of new drugs, precision medicine, complex generics, biosimilars, anti-microbial resistance drugs, etc. Centres of Excellence have been set up in NIPERs under the Scheme for Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector to promote research and innovation in identified core areas of pharmaceutical research. Further, the PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals also incentivises investment in research and development and manufacturing and sales of high-tech medicines.

Annexure referred to in the reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 4732 for answer on 28.3.2025, raised by Shri Malaiyarasan D, regarding Scheme for Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry

S. No.	Sub-schemes	Fund allocated (in crore ₹)	Amount disbursed (in crore ₹)
1	Assistance to Pharmaceutical Industry for	178.40	94.91
	Common Facilities		
2	Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology	300.10	
	Upgradation Assistance Scheme		
3	Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Promotion	21.5	6.78
	and Development Scheme		
Total		500	101.69

Details of the fund allocated for the scheme and the amount disbursed till date
