

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3254  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2026**

**SHORTAGE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES**

**†3254. SHRI SATPAL BRAHAMCHARI:  
SHRI JAI PARKASH:  
SHRI SANATAN PANDEY:**

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many essential medicines prescribed by doctors in Government hospitals and health centres in the Sonipat, Hisar and Ballia Parliamentary Constituencies are not available in the hospitals thereby forcing patients to purchase them from private medical stores, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned, released and spent under the National Health Mission for the Sonipat, Hisar and Ballia Parliamentary Constituencies during the last three years along with the details of the health facilities strengthened thereby;
- (c) the major reasons for the shortage of essential medicines in Government hospitals along with the steps taken by the Government to ensure the regular availability of essential medicines in Government hospitals, strengthen the drug supply chain and digitally monitor drug stocks; and
- (d) whether the Government is formulating any action plan for a permanent solution to this problem by providing additional budget, improving drug storage capacity and enhancing supply mechanisms and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d): 'Public Health and Hospitals' are state subject. However, under the National Health Mission (NHM), financial & technical support is provided to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for strengthening their healthcare delivery system including support for provision of free essential medicines in public health facilities based on the requirements posed by States/UTs including Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in their Programme

Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope. The details of the approvals given to the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are available at website of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare at the Uniform Resources Locator (URL) as under:

<https://www.nhm.gov.in/index1.php?lang=1&level=1&sublinkid=1377&lid=744>

The details of Central release under the National Health Mission (NHM) during last three financial year to the State of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are as follows:

**(Rs. In Crore)**

| State         | 2023-24         |             | 2024-25         |             | 2025-26         |             |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
|               | Central Release | Expenditure | Central Release | Expenditure | Central Release | Expenditure |
| Haryana       | 524.01          | 1,221.41    | 562.49          | 1,127.06    | 636.01          | 1,402.07    |
| Uttar Pradesh | 4,928.14        | 10,572.60   | 5,853.43        | 10,377.16   | 5,686.12        | 11,069.32   |

Note: The above releases relate to Central Govt. Grants & do not include State share contribution.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that Hospitals under the Ballia Parliamentary constituency have adequate availability of medicines in accordance with the Essential Drugs List (EDL) and the prescribed norms. All doctors have been instructed not to prescribe medicines from outside sources to patients.

To ensure availability of essential drugs and reduce the Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) of the patients visiting the public health facilities, Government of has rolled out the Free Drugs Service Initiative (FDSI) under NHM. The Ministry has recommended facility wise Essential Medicines List (EML) to be made available at the public healthcare facilities.

Under Free Drugs Service Initiative (FDSI), Government of India supports procurement of drugs and strengthening robust systems of procurement, Quality Assurance, Supply chain management and warehousing, Prescription audit, grievance redressal, dissemination of Standard Treatment Guidelines and Establishment of IT enabled platform DVDMS (Drugs & Vaccine Distribution Management System) for monitoring the real status of procurement and availability of essential medicines.

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