

(b) whether there is any criteria for opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the State, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to promote Jan Aushadhi Kendras in every Primary Health Centre of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) The status of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) opened in Punjab in the last three years and the current year is as under:-

Sl. No.	Financial Year	No. of PMJAKs
1.	2013-14	Nil
2.	2014-15	Nil
3.	2015-16	2
4.	2016-17	2

As on date 6.03.2017, 24 PMBJKs are functional in Punjab.

(b) Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, the State Governments are required to provide space in Government Hospital premises or any other suitable locations for the running of the Jan Aushadhi Kendra. PMBJK may also be opened by any Government agencies in any Government building owned by Government bodies like Railways/State Transport Department/Urban Local Bodies/Panchayati Raj Institutions/Post Offices/Defense/PSUs etc. Any NGOs/Charitable Society/Institution/Self-help Group/Individual Entrepreneurs/Pharmacist/Doctor can also open the Jan Aushadhi Kendra at outside of the hospital premises or any other suitable place.

(c) Opening of Kendras at Primary Health Centre depends on the State Government for taking this initiative. So far State Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Mizoram, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have signed MoU for opening of 1326 PMBJP Kendras.

#### **Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices**

1165. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices, announced in January, 2015, was to be made mandatory in six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for giving four extentions with the last one for an indefinite period; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to bar pharmaceutical companies from bribing doctors with foreign jaunts, expensive gifts and even cash to sell their drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) At the time of announcing the Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) on 12th December, 2014 which was to be adopted and complied with by the Pharma industry for a period of six months w.e.f. 01.01.2015, it was also mentioned that the UCPMP would be reviewed on the basis of inputs received.

(d) The Government has been reviewing the implementation of the UCPMP which is being implemented w.e.f. 01.01.2015 in consultation with the stakeholders including Pharma associations, NGO/Civil societies, Ministry of Health and Family welfare and Medical Council of India. In certain cases, complaints have been received against certain Pharmaceutical Companies for using unethical practices for promoting their products. These complaints were examined and suitable action was taken as per the provisions of the Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) effective from 01.01.2015.

#### **Action on pharma companies for overcharging**

1166. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken action on certain pharmaceutical companies who have allegedly overcharged the consumers for medicines which are under price control, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken on the erring companies during each of the last three years, company-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to expand the National List of Essential Medicines and make medicines available to consumers at an affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Drugs (Prices Control) Order issued by the Government from time to time contains provisions to make any manufacturer selling a schedule bulk drug/formulation at a price higher than the ceiling price fixed and notified by the Government to deposit