**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
**MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS**
**DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 979
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th July, 2022

**Sale of generic medicines through PM Jan Aushadhi Kendra**

**979 Dr. Ashok Bajpai:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendras and total sales by them during the last three years;
(b) the details of the policy initiatives to promote the production and sale of generic medicines;
(c) whether every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly to ensure their rational prescription and use;
(d) if so, whether physicians do so and to what extent; and
(e) whether the Medical Council of India took any action against physicians and Government hospitals for not complying with the above requirement?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

(a): The details about number of *Pradhan Mantri Bhariya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) opened and sales made by them during the last three years are as under:-

| Sl. No. | Year | Number of PMBJKs opened | | Sales at MRP Value (In Rs. Crore) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Yearly Net Addition | Cumulative | |
| 1. | 2019-20 | 1166 | 6306 | 433.61 |
| 2. | 2020-21 | 1251 | 7557 | 665.83 |
| 3. | 2021-22 | 1053 | 8610 | 893.56 |

(b): With an objective of making quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all citizens *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana* (PMBJP) was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals. Under the Scheme, more than 8,700 dedicated outlets known as *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras* (PMBJKs) have been opened all across the country to provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices.

Further, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had on 01.10.2012 directed Health Secretaries of all States/UTs to instruct their respective Drug Licensing Authorities to grant/renew licenses to manufacture for sale or for distribution of drugs in proper/generic names only as the grant of drugs manufacturing licenses under a Trade name is not in accordance to the spirit of the legislation.

(c) to (e): Medical Council of India vide their circular dated 21-04-2017 has prescribed that "*all registered medical practitioners should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs*".

Further, Department of Pharmaceuticals periodically write to States/UTs Administrations to ensure that Government doctors prescribe only generic medicines.

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