

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 181
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04th FEBRUARY, 2025

Self-reliance in medical devices sector

181 Shri Jaggesh:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to focus on local production of high-tech components and R&D investments in medical technology to achieve full self-reliance in medical devices sector;
- (b) whether India's medical devices sector is gradually achieving self-reliance in consumables, implants and electronic equipment though import dependency remains high in some areas;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of India's import dependency in medical device sector in some areas; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to achieve self-reliance in the sector by enhancing manufacturing capabilities and global competitiveness?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): Government has launched a scheme for Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma and MedTech sector, through the Department of Pharmaceuticals, 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 medical devices.

The Government has also taken several measures to encourage domestic manufacturing of high-end medical devices, with a view to reduce imports dependence and boost domestic manufacturing. The programmatic interventions for the same are as follows:

- (i) *Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for promoting domestic manufacturing of Medical Devices:* This scheme has a financial outlay of ₹3,420 crore and a tenure from the financial year (FY) 2020-2021 to FY 2026-27. Under the scheme, selected companies are eligible for financial incentive at the rate of 5% of incremental sales of medical devices manufactured in India under the four target segments of (1) radiotherapy, (2) imaging devices, (3) anaesthesia, cardio-respiratory and critical care, (4) implants, for a period of five years. 19 Greenfield projects have so far been commissioned and production has started for 46 products, which include high-end medical devices such as linear accelerator, MRI machines, CT scans, mammograms, C-arms and ultrasound machines that were being imported. Applicants under the scheme have made cumulative sales ₹9,117.07 crore, including export sales worth ₹4,398.34 crore, till December 2024.

- (ii) *Scheme for Promotion of Medical Devices Parks*: The scheme aims to provide easy access to world-class, common infrastructure facilities to medical device units located in parks. It has a financial outlay of ₹400 crore. Approvals for creation of common infrastructure facilities in the proposed medical device parks have been conveyed in respect of proposals received from the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.
- (iii) *Scheme for Strengthening Medical Device Industry*: This scheme, with a financial outlay of ₹500 crore, has been launched on 8.11.2024, with a view to provide support in critical areas of the medical device industry, under the following five sub-schemes:
- (1) Common Facilities for Medical Devices Clusters;
 - (2) Marginal Investment Scheme for Reducing Import Dependence;
 - (3) Capacity Building and Skill Development for Medical Devices;
 - (4) Medical Device Clinical Studies Support Scheme; and
 - (5) Medical Device Promotion Scheme.

Enabled by various measures taken and schemes launched by the Government, India's medical devices sector has gradually started moving towards self-reliance. During the five-year period from FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24, the compound annual growth rates for imports and exports in the sector have been 8.79% and 13.35% respectively, which shows that exports have been growing at a significantly higher rate than imports. The details of imports and exports of medical devices over the last five years, as per the data of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, are as under:

(In million US\$)

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Exports	2,293	2,532	2,923	3,391	3,785
Imports	5,845	6,242	8,540	7,492	8,188

Segment-wise details regarding the imports and exports of medical devices over the last three years, as per the data of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, are as under:

Imports

(In million US\$)

S. no.	Segment	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
1	Consumables and disposables	1,624	1,091	1,185
2	Surgical instruments	169	210	205
3	Electronics equipment	5,441	4,884	5,408
4	Implants	423	540	586
5	<i>In vitro</i> diagnostic reagents	883	767	804
	Total	8,540	7,492	8,188

Exports

(In million US\$)

S. No.	Segment	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
1	Consumables and disposables	1,378	1,605	1,752
2	Surgical instruments	71	72	79
3	Electronics equipment	1,163	1,335	1,472
4	Implants	135	188	266
5	<i>In Vitro</i> diagnostic reagents	176	191	216
	Total	2,923	3,391	3,785
