

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1941
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th MARCH, 2025

Generic medicines available in JAKs in Tamil Nadu

1941 Shri R. Dharmar:

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

- (a) the total number of generic medicines available under the Jan Aushadhi Kendra (JAK) scheme;
- (b) the efforts being made by Government to increase awareness about benefits of generic medicines among the public especially in rural and remote areas;
- (c) the total number of JAKs that have been opened within Tamil Nadu and the targeted number of centres to be established in this financial year;
- (d) whether Government plans to include more life-saving or expensive drugs under generic medicines initiative, and if so, the details of such proposals; and
- (e) the steps being taken to ensure quality and safety of generic medicines sold through Government channels like JAK?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana scheme, 2,047 types of medicines and 300 surgical devices and consumables have been brought under the product basket, covering all major therapeutic groups, such as cardiovascular, anti-cancers, anti-diabetic, anti-infectives, anti-allergic and gastro-intestinal medicines and nutraceuticals.

(b): To spread awareness about the scheme, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India, the scheme implementing agency, regularly undertakes several activities including the following measures:

- (i) Issuance of advertisements in various modes, such as the print media, radio, TV, mobile application, cinema, hoardings, branding of bus queue shelters and buses, auto wrapping and TV screens at Common Service Centres;
- (ii) Outreach through social media platforms, such as Facebook, X, Instagram and YouTube; and
- (iii) Celebration of Jan Aushadhi Diwas on the 7th of March every year.

(c): A total of 1,363 Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) have been opened till 28.2.2025 in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Government has decided to open 15,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country by 31.3.2025. Target has already been achieved and as on 28.2.2025 a total of 15,057 JAKs have been opened across the country. There was no State/UT wise target.

(d): The scheme has the target to increase its product basket to 2,100 medicines and 310 surgicals, medical consumables and devices by 31.3.2025.

(e): Stringent measures as specified below are in place to ensure that the medicines supplied through Jan Aushadhi Kendras meet standards:

- (i) Medicines are procured only from suppliers certified for World Health Organization – Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP).
- (ii) Each batch of drugs supplied under the scheme is tested at laboratories accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and only after passing quality tests, medicines are dispatched to Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- (iii) Quality audit of the facilities of vendors is routinely done by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India.
