

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1344
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024

Artificial Intelligence and Block Chain in Pharmaceutical Sector

**1344. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:
SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:
SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR:**

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the importance of advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Block Chains etc. which can play a major role in boosting the pharmaceutical sector in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the various steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to leverage such technological developments to the sector's advantage in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b): Yes. Department of Pharmaceuticals has taken steps to promote R&D in the sector including in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning through the Promotion of Research and Innovation in the Pharma-Medtech Sector (PRIP) Scheme. Further, NIPERs under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals have introduced topics related to Artificial Intelligence and Block Chain Technology in their courses and they provide training to students in AI-based tools to build human resource capacities in these areas for the pharmaceutical sector. In addition, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) also supports Artificial Intelligence-based research activities in the biotech sector, particularly in the healthcare and agriculture areas, in order to leverage emerging technologies for these sectors.
