

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2830
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2011
JAN AUSHADHI OUTLETS
McLeod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether the Government's flagship programme for providing cheaper medicines through the Jan Aushadhi Outlets in the country has not taken off in the expected manner;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has launched/propose to launch a drug information helpline to give information on the availability of cheaper medicine options to the general public;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b) No Sir. Consequent upon a decision taken in the meeting of the Pharma Advisory Forum held on 23rd August, 2008 in the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India and on the initiative of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Jan Aushadhi Campaign was launched on 25th November, 2008 under which the Government intend to provide quality medicines at affordable prices in every district of the country by way of opening Jan Aushadhi Outlets in the Government Hospitals. To begin with, at least one Jan Aushadhi Store in each district was to be opened wherever the State Governments extend their support and cooperation in allotting the space and also identifying the agency to manage such stores. As on today, 100 such Jan Aushadhi Outlets are functional in the country in the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal Chandigarh & Delhi.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) working under the aegis of the Department of Pharmaceutical, is already running a National Toll Free Helpline No. 1800-180-8080 on Jan Aushadhi Campaign in collaboration with an NGO, Consumer Online Foundation.