

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5027

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014

JAN AUSHADHI GENERIC DRUG STORES

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

- (a) the objectives of Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug Stores (JAGDS) and the number of JAGDS set up/functional so far and the number of stores closed down along with the reasons therefor, location-wise;
- (b) the criteria fixed to open JAGDS along with the awareness activities undertaken under the said scheme;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to open more JAGDS in the country including small cities and premises of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Bhopal district of Madhya Pradesh for providing generic and other medicines to common man at reasonable prices and if so, the details thereof, location-wise and the time by which these are likely to be opened and made functional;
- (d) the details of target set/achievement made to open such stores in the country so far location-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any review of performance/functioning of JAGDS and if so, the outcome of the said review along with the action/steps taken thereon; and
- (f) the mechanism put in place to ensure availability of the medicines at each of the said stores and the steps taken to provide costly medicines for cancer and heart disease at the JAGDS?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a): The objective of 'Jan Aushadhi Scheme' is to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all. The details of number of JAGDS opened so far, including those which have been closed down along with locations is given in Annexure. The Jan Aushadhi stores have become non-functional mainly on account of Health policy of the State Governments such as Haryana, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu to provide free medicines from Govt. Hospitals, non-prescriptions of generic, medicines by Govt. doctors and non-viability of Jan Aushadhi stores on account of non-availability of all the medicines and poor sale from the stores.

(b): JAGDS may be opened by (i) NGOs / Institutions / Co-operative societies identified by the State Governments on free space provided within the premises of hospitals; and (ii) any reputed NGOs / Charitable societies / Institutions/ self-help group / individual entrepreneur who is interested to run the JAGDS. Bureau of Pharma Public Undertakings of India (BPPI), an implementing agency has initiated necessary steps to make people aware about the availability and advantage of using generic medicines at affordable prices at the Jan Aushadhi stores by making publicity through print and electronic media.

(c) & (d): The Government proposes to open more JAGDS all over the country. Expressions of Interest are invited and based on response further action is taken. In addition the Government has been requesting all the State Govt. and Union Territory Governments to open Jan Aushadhi Stores in their States/UTs. Originally, it was proposed to open atleast one JAGDS in each district of the country. Under the New Business Plan 3000 stores are proposed to be opened till the end of 12th Plan period.

(e): The Govt. has conducted review of performance of JAGDS through the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). PHFI in their report observed that reasons responsible for the scheme not being successful were: Over dependence on support from State Government, Poor Supply Chain management, Non-prescription of Generic Medicines by the doctors. State Governments launching free supply of drugs and Lack of awareness.

(f): Medicines are now being sourced, from private manufacturers in addition to procurement from Central Pharma Sector Undertakings. A central warehouse has been set up in Gurgaon and Super Stockists have also been appointed for smooth supply of medicines to JAGDS.