

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1043
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th JULY, 2025

Atmanirbhar Pharma Sector

1043. Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:

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

- (a) the key initiatives undertaken by the Government to realize the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat in the pharmaceutical sector, especially in Maharashtra;
- (b) the measures being taken to promote indigenous pharmaceutical innovation, reduce dependency on imports and strengthen local manufacturing hubs, particularly in Jalgaon Lok Sabha constituency in Maharashtra;
- (c) the progress made under recent policy reforms and incentive schemes (such as PLI) in enhancing India's global competitiveness as a pharmaceutical hub;
- (d) the impact of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) on improving affordability and accessibility of quality medicines, with specific data or outcomes from Maharashtra particularly in Jalgaon district; and
- (e) whether the Government has any plans to expand bulk drug parks, R&D infrastructure or pharma clusters in Maharashtra, specially in Jalgaon district, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): Number of schemes are being implemented to realise the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat in the pharmaceutical sector, promote indigenous pharmaceutical innovation, reduce dependency on imports and strengthen local manufacturing hubs throughout the country, including in the State of Maharashtra and Jalgaon district. These include the following:

- (i) Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (PRIP) scheme;
- (ii) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals;
- (iii) PLI Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs) / Drug Intermediates (DIs) / Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in India (also known as the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs);
- (iv) Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks; and
- (v) Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme.

The PRIP scheme has been launched with an outlay of ₹ 5,000 crore to transform India's Pharma MedTech sector from cost- to innovation-based growth by strengthening research and to promote industry-academia linkage for research and development in priority areas in drug

discovery and development and medical devices. Under this, seven Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have been set up, one at each of the seven National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs), with total budgetary support to the tune of ₹ 700 crore, to create research infrastructure and promote R&D in identified areas. The CoEs are in the areas of anti-viral and anti-bacterial drug discovery and development, medical devices, bulk drugs, flow chemistry and continuous manufacturing, novel drug delivery system, phytopharmaceuticals and biological therapeutics, and have so far approved 104 research projects under the scheme and have filed two patents. The scheme also includes an outlay of ₹4,250 crore for support to industry and startups, including in collaboration with academia, for undertaking research and innovation projects in priority areas. As and when applications are invited under the scheme, applicants from any State or Union Territory can apply.

The PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals aims to enhance India's manufacturing capabilities by increasing investment and production in the sector and contributing to product diversification to high-value goods in the pharmaceutical sector. It incentivises production of high-value medicines such as biopharmaceuticals, complex generic drugs, patented drugs or drugs nearing patent expiry, auto-immune drugs, anti-cancer drugs, etc. as well as production of APIs/KSMs/DIs other than those notified under the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs, thereby contributing to self-reliance. The scheme has enabled enhanced investment and production in eligible products. As of March 2025, the committed investment of ₹17,275 crore targeted over the six-year period of the scheme stands substantially exceeded with cumulative investment of ₹37,306 crore made by the scheme's third year, and cumulative sales of approved products of ₹2,66,528 crore have been made, including exports of ₹1,70,807 crore. Under the scheme, 60 manufacturing and R&D units of 14 applicants are located in the State of Maharashtra.

The PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs, which has a total budgetary outlay of ₹6,940 crore, aims to avoid disruption in supply of critical active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) used to make critical drugs for which there are no alternatives by reducing supply disruption risk due to excessive dependence on single source. As of March 2025, the committed investment of ₹3,938.5 crore under projects approved under the scheme for investment over the six-year production period of the scheme stands substantially exceeded with cumulative investment of ₹4,570 crore made by the scheme's third year. Further, production capacity has been created for 25 APIs/KSMs/DIs. Under the scheme, cumulative sales of ₹1,817 crore have been reported over the period from FY2022-23 till FY2024-25, including exports of ₹455 crore, thereby avoiding imports worth ₹1,362 crore. Under the scheme, six projects have been approved in the State of Maharashtra, including one in Jalgaon district.

Under the Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks, which has a total budgetary outlay of ₹3,000 crore, three parks have been approved and are at various stages of development in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, through their respective State Implementing Agencies. The total project cost of these is over ₹ 6,300 crore, with Central assistance to the tune of ₹1,000 crore each for creation of common infrastructure facilities. These parks would offer land and utilities such as power, water, effluent treatment plant, steam, solid waste management, warehouse facilities at a subsidised rate. The State Implementing Agencies of the three States are also offering fiscal incentives in the form of capital subsidy on fixed capital investment, interest subsidy, State Goods and Services Tax reimbursement, exemption of stamp duty and registration charges, etc. Further, the scheme provides that applicants for allotment of

land in the parks to set up units for manufacturing products prioritised in the PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs will have priority in land allotment.

The Strengthening of Pharmaceutical Industry scheme supports realisation of the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat through the following sub-schemes:

- (i) *Assistance to Pharmaceutical Industry for Common Facilities (API-CF)*: The scheme aims to strengthen the existing infrastructure facilities by providing financial assistance to pharmaceutical clusters for creation of common facilities. It helps create tangible assets as common facilities, such as testing labs, R&D labs, effluent treatment plants and training centres, thereby supporting the long-term viability and growth of the clusters by enabling them to develop and leverage shared resources. Under API-CF, projects with total grant-in-aid to the tune of ₹ 139.33 crore to pharmaceutical clusters have been approved for creation of common facilities and are at various stages of execution. Once these common facilities are created, they are expected to provide access to common facilities to around 1,300 existing pharmaceutical units, besides catalysing the augmentation of capacities at these clusters through the setting up of new pharmaceutical units and expansion of existing units. The projects under development include creation of a common facility for testing, quality control and process validating laboratory at Jejuri pharmaceutical cluster in Pune, Maharashtra. The project has been supported with the grant-in-aid of ₹7.18 crore, out of total project cost of ₹14.38 crore. The project is expected to provide access to common facilities to approximately 150 pharmaceutical units located in the cluster.
- (ii) *Revamped Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (RPTUAS)*: The scheme aims to support upgrade of production facilities of small and medium pharmaceutical companies having average turnover of less than ₹ 500 crore, to attain the standards specified in the revised Schedule M to the Drugs Rules, 1945 and the World Health Organization – Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP), thereby improving their competitiveness, both domestically and globally. Under this, till 1.7.2025, support for upgrade to attain the said standards has been approved for 142 micro, small and medium pharmaceutical companies, with total sanctioned amount of ₹135.8 crore. This includes 16 companies in the State of Maharashtra with total sanctioned amount of ₹18.98 crore.

Enabled by these schemes, over the last six financial years, the export of drugs and pharmaceuticals has increased by 92%, from ₹1,28,028 crore in FY2018-19 to ₹2,45,962 crore in FY2024-25.

(d): The Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana scheme to make quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all. Under the scheme, dedicated outlets known as Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) are opened across the country to provide medicines at prices that are about 50% to 80% lower than those of leading branded medicines in the market. Till 30.6.2025, a total of 16,912 JAKs have been opened and on the average, about 10 to 12 lakh persons visit these Kendras daily and avail of quality medicines at affordable prices. 2,110 medicines and 315 surgicals, medical consumables and devices are under the scheme product basket, covering all major therapeutic groups, such as cardiovascular, anti-cancers, anti-diabetic, anti-infectives, anti-allergic and gastro-intestinal medicines and nutraceuticals. As a result of the scheme, in the last 11 years, estimated savings of about ₹38,000 crore have accrued to citizens in comparison to the prices of branded medicines. Further, the scheme has provided self-employment to over 16,000 persons, including over 6,800 women entrepreneurs. Till

30.6.2025, a total of 723 JAKs have been opened in the State of Maharashtra, of which 14 JAKs have been opened in Jalgaon district.

(e): No plan is currently under consideration to expand bulk drug parks or R&D infrastructure in Jalgaon district. However, the support for existing formulations industry is available under the Strengthening Pharmaceutical Industry scheme. Pharmaceutical companies in the State of Maharashtra, including in Jalgaon district, may apply both for the API-CF sub-scheme as and when the Department of Pharmaceuticals invites applications under the said sub-scheme through its website and for RPTUAS, for which applications are currently invited by the Department.
