

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1704
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH MARCH, 2021**

IMPORT OF DRUGS FROM CHINA

1704 DR. C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bulk of the drugs to manufacture medicines in the country are imported from China, if so, the details thereof for the last three years
- (b) the manner in which Government is going to protect the pharma industry in view of the recent steps taken by Government and
- (c) whether Government has considered any alternative arrangement so that there is no scarcity of medicines in the country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Yes, As per data available with Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the details of the percentage of raw materials imported from China are as under:

Year	Percentage (in terms of value)
2018	66.53%
2019	72.40%
2020	72.15%

(b): Department of Pharmaceuticals has launched following three schemes for promoting domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials/Drug Intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) by attracting large investments in the sector to ensure their sustainable domestic supply and thereby reduce India's import dependence:

(I) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/ Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) In India:

(II) Scheme for Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks:

(III) Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Pharmaceuticals:

(c): Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 various sites of different countries are registered by the CDSCO for import of various Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) which are used for manufacture of drug formulations in the country. CDSCO reviews all such applications for import of APIs in an expeditious manner.