

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras

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About Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBKs):

- PMBKs are set up under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, which was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in November 2008.
- **Objective:** To provide quality medicines at affordable prices for all, particularly the poor, so as to reduce out-of-pocket expenses in healthcare.
- PMBKs provides generic drugs, which are available at lesser prices but are equivalent in quality and efficacy as expensive branded drugs.
- All therapeutic medicines are made available from Jan Aushadhi Stores.
- Jan Aushadhi stores also sell allied medical products commonly sold in chemist shops so as to improve the viability of running the Jan Aushadhi store.
- **Pharmaceutical & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)** has been established under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India, with the support of all the CPSUs for co-coordinating procurement, supply, and marketing of generic drugs through the PMBKs.

- **Who can open a Jan Aushadhi Kendra?**

- **State Governments** or any organization / **reputed NGOs** / Trusts / **Private hospitals** / **charitable institutions** / Doctors / Unemployed pharmacists/ individual entrepreneurs **are eligible** to apply for the new Jan Aushadhi Kendra.

The applicants **shall have to employ one B Pharma** / D Pharma degree holder as Pharmacist in their proposed store.

Q1) What is a generic drug?

A generic drug is a medication created to be the same as an already marketed brand-name drug in dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics, and intended use.

Source: [Over 9,000 Janaushadhi Kendras in country: Minister](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/pradhan-mantri-bhartiya-janaushadhi-kendras/>

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