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## Govt to open 3,000 *Jan* Aushadhi stores

## **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

**NEW DELHI:** Aiming at making life-saving drugs available at affordable prices, the Minister of Chemicals and Fertiliser has announced opening of 3,000 Jan Aushadhi stores across the country soon. These outlets will offer quality generic medicines at 60-70 per cent less than the market price.

"It's the apathy of the previous governments that the country has just 98 such generic drug stores since its inception in 2008. The ministry is working to fulfil the promises of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to provide affordable medicines to all," said Ananth Kumar, the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertiliser on Monday.

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"Till date the ministry has signed MoUs with seven states for opening of special generic drug stores and the process of discussion is going on with several other states for the same. Keeping in mind the efficacy of generic drugs, the ministry is expecting a huge rise in the demand of cost-effective drugs domestically," Kumar said while launching the report of recommendations of the task force on enabling private sector to lead the growth of pharmaceutical industry.

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