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First free pharmacy at AIIMS opens today, to stock 200 generic drugs EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE mentation of infrastructure at AI

NEW DELHI, MARCH 2

designed to bring laboratory facili-ties of the institute under one roof. afree generic medicine store at Al-IMS and a convergence block — Nabi Azad on Sunday inaugurated **UNION Health Minister Ghulam**

The generic drug store, which will be the first free pharmacy at expected to stock 200 generic drugs AIIMS, will open on Monday. It is and will be open from 8 am to 6 pm

> on all working days. The cost of the drugs, esti-Speaking on the occasion, Azad said, "AUMS has about 9,000-10,000 patients being treated will be borne by the institute. mated at Rs 1.2 crore per month,

vide free medicines to such pamedicines. The pharmacy will proat the OPD every day. Of these, many do not have the means to buy

4,000 patients at the store daily. tients." 7 The institute is expecting about

> care Limited, which will be manstringent quality control mechadiscounted rates by a private pharstandard drugs being provided at nism with the Centre's HLL Lifemacy led the institute to work out a Sources said complaints of sub-

specialty centres at the institute. It will also help the pharmacology depharmacy will be the first cen-tralised, medicine supply system aging the store. across different departments and According to authorities, the

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Azad inaugurated the free pharmacy and the convergence block in AliMS

> ment had allocated Rs 750 crore IMS, for which the Central govern-

The 10-floor building with two

on Sunday. signed by HSCC was built at a cost actions and prescription patterns. partment monitor adverse drug re-The convergence block de-2

of Rs 58.85 crore over an area of 18,600 square metres and comogy. It will also have teaching rooms, for various departments such as Biolblocks will house research facilities laboratories and research units iology, Pharmacology and Pathology, Anatomy, Biochemistry, Phys-

the project came on February 10, but sources said the centre will be along with a Knowledge Centre. A No Objection Certificate for

by the Moily Committee for aug-

part of the recommendations made pleted in 18 months. The block was

