

25th August 2026

Dr. Christina Z. Chongthu, IAS
The Principal Secretary to Government
Health, Medical & Family Welfare Department
Government of Telangana
Hyderabad

Sub: Request for suitable change in the name of Telangana State Authority for Food and Essential Drugs (TG SAFE)

Dear Madam,

Greetings from BDMAI!

On behalf of the Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association of India (BDMAI), we wish to place on record our appreciation for the Government of Telangana for bringing the Drugs and Food regulatory functions under a unified authority and establishing the Telangana State Authority for Food and Essential Drugs (TG SAFE) with effect from 16.8.2026.

We believe that the integration of the regulatory functions relating to drugs and food under a single authority is a progressive step and would help in improving coordination, efficiency and ease of doing business for the industry.

However, the pharmaceutical industry has expressed certain concerns regarding the nomenclature "Telangana State Authority for Food and Essential Drugs (TG SAFE)", particularly the use of the word "Essential" in the name of the regulatory authority.

The term "Essential Drugs" has a specific and well-established meaning in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sector. In India, there is a notified National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), and pricing of medicines included in the relevant categories is also governed under the applicable regulatory framework administered by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). Similar concepts and specific lists of essential medicines are maintained by regulatory and public health authorities in several countries across the world.

Since lot of exports take place out of Telangana and also supplied to other States in the country, the industry apprehend that the inclusion of the word "Essential" in the name of the State drug regulatory authority may inadvertently create an impression that the authority is concerned only with, or has a specific mandate relating to, Essential Drugs/Medicines. This may lead to ambiguity among manufacturers, distributors, healthcare stakeholders and, more importantly, regulatory authorities outside Telangana.


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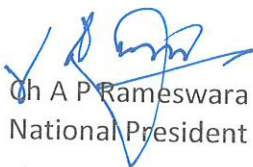
Such ambiguity could potentially result in additional queries, requests for clarification or even difficulties in acceptance/recognition of licences and regulatory documents issued by TG SAFE, particularly by overseas regulatory authorities that may not be familiar with the specific administrative restructuring undertaken by the Government of Telangana.

We therefore respectfully submit that it would be appropriate to adopt a names like Telangana State Food and Drug Administration (TG SFDA); or Telangana Food and Drug Administration (TG FDA) etc., that clearly and universally reflects the broad statutory mandate of the Authority over drugs and food, without attaching a specific regulatory meaning to the term "Essential".

We shall be grateful for your kind consideration of this important issue in the interest of the pharmaceutical and food industries of Telangana and the State's growing international regulatory interface.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,


Ch A P Rameswara Rao
National President



Copy to:

Shri Avinash Mohanthy IPS, Commissioner, TG SAFE, Hyderabad.