

Govt restricts drug exports as coronavirus threat rises

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As per the recent notification by Directorate General of Foreign Trade, it is restricting the export of 26 active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and drug formulations used as raw materials to manufacture crucial drugs until further notice, to prevent shortages amid concerns of the coronavirus outbreak in India.

The notification states amendment in the export policy of these APIs and formulations made out of these APIs. The list includes paracetamol, Vitamins B1, B6, B12, female hormone drug Progesterone, antibiotics used to treat vaginal infections like Tinidazole and Metronidazole, a drug used to treat herpes Acyclovir, and other antibiotics like Chloramphenicol, Erythormycin Salts Neomycin, Ornidazole and Clindamycin.

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