

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5443  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010  
GENOME TO DRUG INITIATIVE LABORATORY  
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any programme named Genome to Drug Initiative Laboratory in System Biology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the objectives of such programme; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR EARTH SCIENCES  
(PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (c) No Sir, there is no programme named Genome to Drug Initiative Laboratory in Systems Biology. However, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has sanctioned a project entitled "Identifying the host -dependent survival axis of Mycobacterium tuberculosis: an approach towards Systems Pharmacology" at a total cost of Rs. 101.59 lakhs on 30.06.2008 for a period of three years at International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), New Delhi. The Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Hyderabad has also contributed an amount of Rs. 195.40 lakhs to the above project. The goal of the project is to explore a novel approach to tuberculosis therapy by targeting molecules of the host cell that mycobacteria infect. The objective of the project is to identify the key host molecules that support Mycobacterium tuberculosis survival and inhibit some of them with drugs, which may lead to the elimination of the infection.