

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:710  
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009  
NEW DRUGS FOR T.B. PATIENTS  
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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any new drug has been developed for effective and affordable treatment of T.B. patients;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to involve scientists, pharmaceutical companies and experts to develop new drugs to overcome the resistance of bacterium in the treatment of tuberculosis;and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) No. However till very recently seven candidate TB drugs are undergoing clinical trials, these include gatifloxacin, moxifloxacin, diarylquinolone, TMC207, PA-824, OPC-67693, SQ 109 and LL-3858.

At the global front, it is hoped that at least one new drug would be ready for registration by 2010. Of the others, which are in various stages of development at least some are expected to move forward in the pipeline.

The LL-3858 molecule has been developed as an investigational new drug for tuberculosis by the pharmaceutical company Lupin under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research's (CSIR) New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI). The Company has successfully completed Phase I studies for the drug and has submitted Phase I report to the DCGI in March 2008.

The TMC207 molecule, developed by Johnson and Johnson for the treatment of multi-drug resistant TB, has successfully completed its phase I trial. The phase II trials, which are expected to commence shortly, are being conducted in collaboration with Tuberculosis Research Centre, Chennai and AIIMS, New Delhi.

(c) & (d) The Government is encouraging the development of newer drugs for the treatment of Tuberculosis including Multi drug resistant TB. The recently created Department of Health Research, under MOH &FW, is also promoting and co-coordinating clinical research, including clinical trials related to newer drug molecules for the treatment of Tuberculosis.