

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3660
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2012
ANTI TUBERCULOSIS DRUGS VACCINES
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is supporting any research projects to develop drug and vaccine against tuberculosis, particularly drug-resistant tuberculosis in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made as a result thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of a study conducted in Switzerland which has found an anti-tuberculosis natural antibiotic produced by the bacterium *Dactylosporangium fulvum*;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the further steps taken/proposed by the Government in the light of the said findings?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY)

(a)&(b): While the Ministry by itself, is not formulating new medicines for Drug Resistant TB, however, in the matter of supporting research projects, a chemical compound 'Tnasitmycin' has been found to have anti TB activity against drug sensitive, MDR & XDR strains and also against dormant TB bacilli and is under evaluation by National Institute of Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai under Indian Council of Medical Research.

In addition National Institute of Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai under Indian Council of Medical Research was also a part of global multi-centric randomized placebo-controlled Phase II trial of TMC207. The trial has been completed.

(c) to (e): Yes, the molecule developed is Pyridomycin produced by the bacterium *Dactylosporangium fulvum* which has anti-tubercular activity.

A new drug can only be introduced in the Indian market after due permission from Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare/Government of India.

So far as the drug Pyridomycin is concerned, no application has been received for grant of permission.