

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3597
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2009
VACCINE TRIALS FOR INFLUENZA H1N1
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has written to four multinational vaccine manufacturers to conduct trials of Influenza H1N1 vaccine in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response received in this regard; and
- (c) the time by which the country is expected to obtain H1N1 vaccine to mitigate the threat of the swine flu?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Yes. In coordinating the Government's efforts in exploring the possibility of importing the foreign H1N1 vaccines and anticipating early release of foreign made vaccines, the Ministry and the Indian Council of Medical Research are in dialogue with four international vaccine manufacturers namely GSK, Baxter, Novartis and Sanofi Pasteur, which have showed interest for selling imported H1N1 vaccine in India. As an interim measure, till the indigenous vaccine supplies become available, these companies are in the process of initiation of the bridging study (ies) to assess safety and tolerability of the vaccines in the diverse Indian population. The timings of the availability of vaccine will depend on various factors including the outcome of these studies.