

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:331

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2015

Measles-Rubella Vaccine

Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath

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

- (a) Whether a MOU has been signed with the Netherland for the development of vaccine in India;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) The salient features of the MOU and its status;
- (d) Whether MOU has been signed under, "Make in India" initiative of the Government of India; and
- (e) If so, the time by which the work on the project is likely to start and the extent to which the MOU may boost "Make in India" initiative?

Answer

MINISTER FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a)to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *331 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2015 REGARDING "MEASLES-RUBELLA VACCINE".

(a) Yes Madam. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 5th June 2015 between Government of India and The Netherlands.

(b) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for vaccine development has been signed between Department of Biotechnology (Ministry of Science & Technology), Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL), a PSU under Department of Biotechnology and Institute for Translational Vaccinology (INTRAVACC), Bilthoven, The Netherlands, during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of The Netherlands to India in June 2015. The MOU, broadly, envisages.

(i) Cooperation between BIBCOL and INTRAVACC in setting up a Measles-Rubella vaccine plant.

(ii) To explore the possibility of joint development of vaccines by Autonomous Institutes of DBT like Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI) with INTRAVACC.

(c) The salient features are-

(i) INTRAVACC will carry out a feasibility study, evaluation of present capabilities of BIBCOL with respect to vaccine production, cGMP status and quality of staff followed by design of plant and facility, formulation, training and transfer of technology with respect to measles rubella vaccine.

(ii) The autonomous institutes like THSTI, NII etc will explore the possibility of joint development of various vaccines with INTRAVACC. The technology so developed would be used by Indian companies for production of vaccines for India and the world.

(d) Yes Madam.

(e) (a) The work on the BIBCOL project for development of Measles-Rubella vaccine is likely to start in November / December 2015 and on completion of this project in 2-3 years, BIBCOL will be in a position to produce quality MR vaccine at affordable cost for India and the world.

(a) Exploring the possibility of developing vaccine technology for other vaccines needed in India will be initiated by the autonomous bodies. This initiative will boost the availability of vaccine technology for Indian companies
