

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1439
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
VACCINE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) the status of vaccine research and development in Department of Science and Technology funded research institutions;
- (b) the details of indigenous vaccines developed and commercialized during the last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to promote research in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) The Department of Biotechnology is implementing Vaccine Research and Development programme since 1988-89 and providing support for several research institutions and industry in the country under public private partnership programme through Vaccine Grand Challenge Programme and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), for development of vaccines to reduce the burden of vaccine- preventable diseases of public health significance. The support provided for major projects arc for development of vaccines lor rotaviral diarrhea, dengue, HIV, HPV, JE, cholera, malaria, tuberculosis etc.

(b) The vaccine called "ROTA VAC" for rotaviral diarrhea was successfully developed as the first indigenous vaccine from an Indian strain (116E) by Indian investigators and manufactured by Indian company with support of Government and global partners. T he vaccine was developed under a unique social innovation of public private partnership with international collaboration. The development of other vaccines such as Dengue, Malaria, Cholera, HIV. HPV, JE, Tuberculosis etc. are in advanced stages of clinical evaluation.

(c) Concerted efforts arc being made in development of vaccines through Medical Biotechnology Task Force, National Technology Mission and National Jai Vigyan Mission on S&T for generation of new and improved vaccines. At present, support is being provided through Vaccine Grand Challenge Programme. In order to accelerate development of cost effective new and improved vaccines with new governance model with flexibility, Department has formulated New Vaccine Mission for development of candidate vaccines for which earlier leads are available and also to take them through pre-clinical, clinical development and commercialization. The Department also supporting the vaccine manufacturing in public private partnership model through Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).