

Multi drug resistant TB population in India

2362. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has a third of world's multi-drug-resistant TB population;
- (b) whether after a gap of forty long years, a drug for treatment of MDR TB under the brand- name Bedaquiline was made available in India to selective patients under a conditional access scheme;
- (c) whether the US Drug maker Johnson and Johnson's newly introduced MDR TB drug sold by its subsidiary Jansen is trying to enter Indian market; and
- (d) whether the Nobel Laureate Sir John Walker (the 1997 Nobel winner in Chemistry) has warned that the new Jansen drug might not be without side effects like cardio-vascular risks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No. As per Global TB report 2017, estimated number of Multi Drug Resistant (MDR) TB patients are 6,01,000 globally, of which 147000 (1/4th) are estimated from India.

(b) to (d) Bedaquiline drug was introduced in India in 2016 under conditional access programme for selective group of the Multi drug resistant TB patients based on drug sensitivity results of second line anti TB drugs.

Bedaquiline drug is manufactured by Janssen and Janssen, a subsidiary of Johnson and Johnson, at 100% export Special Economic Zone (SEZ), Bangalore, India. In India, this drug is available through Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) only and open market sale of Bedaquiline is not permitted by Drug Control General – India as of now.

As published in a media report, Nobel Laureate Sir John Walker had raised concern about the already known cardiotoxicity associated with the drug Bedaquiline.

Prevention of cervical and breast cancer

†2363. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cervical cancer and breast cancer are proving deadly for women in different parts of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.