

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6659
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH APRIL, 2018**

RATIONING OF NEW TUBERCULOSIS MEDICINES

6659. SHRIMATI VASANTHI M.:

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

- (a) whether it is true that the Government is considering rationing of new tuberculosis medicines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also true that the advanced tuberculosis medicines are available for only about 1,000 patients; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): The new drug Bedaquiline is available under the programme for all the eligible patients as per the Guidelines for Management of Drug Resistant TB (2017). The drug was initially introduced in the six sites in the absence of Phase-III clinical trial results. Post issuance of guidelines for its use by World Health Organisation, the drug has been issued to all the states. The states are preparing for Bedaquiline use and establishing systems required for monitoring of the cases on Bedaquiline containing regimen.

(c) & (d): No. The new drug Bedaquiline is available for all eligible patients across the country. The required drug courses have been issued to all the states.