

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1078  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**PROCUREMENT OF COVID VACCINE**

**1078. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of any foreign nation which have developed a Corona vaccine;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the human trial for the said vaccine has been successfully completed, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is in talks with Russia and other countries to procure Covid-19 vaccine doses in the upcoming months; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government for timely availability of Covid-19 drugs and vaccination?

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

(a) to (c) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has informed that it has received information about 01 COVID-19 vaccine developed and approved in Russia.

Further, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Health Research, has informed that as per information available from WHO draft landscape of COVID-19 vaccine (last update on 17.09.2020), globally there are 36 candidate vaccines which are under various stages of clinical trials. Of this only 02 are Indian candidates (Bharat Biotech International Ltd. and Cadila Healthcare). All the 36 candidates are under various stages of clinical trials. None of the candidate vaccine so far has completed all stages of clinical trial.

(d) The Department of Biotechnology has informed that the Government of India is in consultations with the Russian Government for exploring the possibility of cooperation with Russia for advancing COVID-19 Vaccine in India. Further, Phase II/III bridging studies of ChAdOx1-S, a vaccine developed by University of Oxford/AstraZeneca have been initiated in India.

(e) While the Govt. and Industry are trying their best to make available a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19 at the earliest, it is difficult to comment on the exact timelines in view of various complex pathways involved in vaccine development.

It is also stated that CDSCO has approved for manufacture/marketing of three drugs for Restricted Emergency Use in the country for treatment of COVID-19 infection:

- a. Remdesivir Injectable formulations
- b. Favipiravir tablets
- c. Itolizumab injection

Further, CDSCO has granted permission for conduct of clinical trial in the country for the following COVID-19 Vaccines:

**Phase I/II trials:**

1. M/s Bharat Biotech

International Ltd.,  
Hyderabad (Two trials)

2. M/s Cadila Healthcare Ltd., Ahmadabad

**Phase II/ III trial:**

M/s. Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd., Pune