

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:926  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005  
HUMAN TRIAL OF HIV VACCINES  
Nair Shri P.K. Vasudevan

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed human trial of a US-made HIV vaccine in India ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Scientist at the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases(NICED) in Kolkata had developed a HIV Vaccine in the year 2003 but its human trial has not been allowed yet;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE ( SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Phase I vaccine trial was launched at National Institute of Research (NARI) Pune, on 7th February 2005.

The vaccine undergoing the clinical trial is called Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV) vaccine. The trial has been undertaken as a joint programme of partnership between the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI). The vaccine is based on HIV-1, Subtype C, the most common variant of the virus found in India. The vaccine has been manufactured by Targeted Genetics Corporation, Seattle, USA.

(c) & (d) A Scientist working at the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkatta has in collaboration with scientists in USA developed a prototype HIV-C vaccine. The prototype vaccine is not ready for human trial as necessary approval from Government's regulatory authorities are being obtained.

It is planned to initiate Phase 1 trial of this candidate vaccine at one of the ICMR's institute i.e. Tuberculosis Research Center (TRC) at Chennai. Capacity building activities have already been initiated at this site. It should be fully operational by mid -2005.

e) Question does not arise.