The invention discloses a new therapeutic drug target which can be used to combat the causative agent of tuberculosis, leprosy and other non-tuberculous mycobacterial diseases. It is effective against the drug resistant strains of the pathogen and has limited side effects on human body.

**Area of technology**: Life sciences/ Drug discovery

**Technology Readiness Level (TRL)**: 2

**BACKGROUND**

- First line anti-tubercular drugs are prescribed for 6 months.
- High patient non-compliance has led to development of drug-resistant strains of mycobacteria.
- There is a need for highly targeted drug delivery with minimum side effects for mycobacterial diseases.

**KEY FEATURES OF THE INVENTION**

- The drug targets a highly conserved two component system (TCS) in bacterial signaling.
- Minimal side effects as the targeted signaling system is absent in eukaryotes.
- This targeting method can be used to combat tuberculosis, leprosy and other mycobacterial non-tuberculous diseases.
- Multiple assays based on TCS for screening inhibitors are also developed.

**COMMERCIALIZATION**

IISc has filed a provisional application for grant of patent in India. We are looking for potential licensees to commercialize this invention.
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