

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5771

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2001

AIDS

A. VENKATESH NAIK

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

- (a) whether some women's organisations have expressed concern on the component on targeted interventions in the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-II;
- (b) if so, whether these organisations have demanded rehabilitation of women who are victims trafficking and sexual exploitation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) In January 2000 representatives of a few women's organisations had questioned the targeted interventions programmes of the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-II (NACP-II) and had asked for measures to eliminate prostitution.

In response to the women's organisations representation, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare held a meeting with the representatives of the Women's organisations to address their concern about certain aspects of the programme and to explain to them the significance of the intervention under NACP-II. A meeting was also convened with a larger group of women's organisations, UNAIDS, WHO, bilateral agencies to elicit their views on the targeted interventions component under NACP-II. The policies and programmes of the NACP-II and the strategies adopted for vulnerable populations such as sex workers were strongly endorsed.

It was also decided that a few pilot projects would be taken up under the supervision of the Deptt. of Women & Child Development for the rehabilitation of Sex workers to create an enabling environment which will provide them an alternative way of life.

The State AIDS Control Societies have also been asked to examine selected rehabilitation schemes as pilot projects only on a limited scale.