

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4790
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000
HIV INFECTION
C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

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

- (a) whether according to a recent country-wide surveillance report of the National AIDS Control Organisation, there is a high prevalence of HIV infection, and a very small percentage of people suffering from STD attend public medicare facilities;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a study has been conducted to identify the problem, State-wise;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to effectively fight the disease and spread thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)&(b) There is a wide regional variation in the prevalence level of HIV infection in the country. Except for the high prevalence states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Manipur, the prevalence of HIV in general population is still low. Presence of Sexually Transmitted Diseases facilitate the transmission of virus because of the ulcer or inflammation of the genital organs. It is a fact that in some STD clinics attendance is poor because of the stigma attached to such diseases and attitude of health care providers.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. Reports from all states have not been received so far.

(e) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main strategy consists of: - Strengthening programme management capabilities at central and state level. - Creation of awareness amongst high-risk behaviour groups and general public about HIV/AIDS. - Control of Sexually Transmitted diseases. - Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood through proper licensing of blood banks and encouraging voluntary blood donations. - Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis; and - Extending training in clinical management of HIV/AIDS cases.