

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6638
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
DIAGNOSING OF HIV
RAGHUNATH JHA

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

- (a) whether the criteria for diagnosing HIV in healthy and sick persons and children in different;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the basis thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) HIV infection in adult person is diagnosed usually by the detection of antibodies to HIV with the help of ELISA test. In children below the age of 18 months, maternal antibodies are passed on to the child. In these cases, detection of HIV antigen by polymerase chain reaction is used for diagnosis of HIV infection.