

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1303  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000  
AGREEMENT WITH AMERICA FOR PREVENTION OF AIDS  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE;UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

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

- (a) whether India and America have signed two agreements with a view to accelerating programmes of mutual cooperation for the prevention of AIDS and looking after the health of mother and child;
- (b) if so, the details of the agreement thereof;
- (c) the total amount of assistance provided by America for the AIDS prevention programme in Maharashtra and other States under the above agreements, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government have formulated any programme to control this disease;
- (e) if so, the details of progress made so far in this regard; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Under the agreement, scientists from both the United States and India plan to initiate or expand a range of AIDS prevention research efforts including development and testing of a variety of strategies. On maternal and child health joint efforts will focus on nutrition research and the prevention of HIV transmission from mother to their children. The nodal or implementing agencies for, both of the joint statements, are the National Institute of Health in the United States and the Indian Council of Medical Research in India.

(c): No assistance has been provided so far under the agreement.

(d), (e) & (f): 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 components consist of :-

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counseling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counseling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sector.