

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2276

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000

RECOGNISATION OF PROSTITUTION AS SEX INDUSTRY

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

- (a) whether the Government recognise prostitution as sex industry as defined by NACO in its publication country Scenario (1998-99);
- (b) if so, whether the Government have any plan to facilitate the industry; and
- (c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent organisation like NACO for committing such mistakes in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) No, Sir. However, NACO, in its publication, `Country Scenario` 1998-99 has highlighted the threat of the spread of HIV infection due to prostitution. It has emphasized on the reduction of the spread of HIV in poor and marginalised population who are at high risk of infection by treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, condom promotion and targetted awareness and counselling services.