

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:174

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005

STRATEGY TO FIGHT HIV AIDS

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

- (a) whether HIV/ AIDS is a potential threat to the Indian economy;
- (b) if so, whether any nation-wide strategy has been adopted by the Government to fight HIV/ AIDS;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the funds allocated during 2005-06 to control HIV/AIDS?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE ( DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) The national prevalence rate of HIV infection is less than 1% but given the enormous size of the population, the number of the infected population is estimated to be 5.134 million. 40 % of these belong to the young age group of 15-35 years age.

(b) & (c) As it is the young in their productive age group who are affected prevention and control of the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, is given high priority. Accordingly, Govt. of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme containing the following components: -

Preventive interventions for high-risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.

Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT), Information Education and Communication (IEC).

Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections, free Antiretroviral therapy in designated centres and prevention of occupational exposure.

Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.

Build technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical Resource Groups, operational research and Programme management.

(d) A total of Rs. 533 crores has been allocated for the control of HIV/AIDS during the financial year 2005-06.