

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:57

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004

CONFERENCE ON HIV/AIDS

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

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

(a) the number of AIDS affected patients in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether in a conference of National Convention of elected representative on HIV/AIDS, held in New Delhi in July,2003 organised by Parliamentary Forum on HIV/AIDS, access to treatment for HIV positive people was assured; and

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken action to provide free of cost Anti retrovirals (ARVs), or highly active retroviral treatment (HARVT) to the HIV infected people through country's healthcare system?

Answer

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

(a) to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 57 FOR 7TH JULY, 2004

Details of the reported number of AIDS cases during the last three years, uptill June 2004, are given at Annexure -I.

A National Convention of the Parliamentary Forum on HIV/AIDS was held on 26th-27th July, 2003, in New Delhi with the objective to involve elected representatives in the HIV/AIDS programme. The National Convention was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and addressed by Deputy Prime Minister, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Leader of Opposition, Dy.Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Representatives from other Political parties. Executive Director of UNAIDS also addressed the delegates. The Convention was concluded with a declaration of Commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS, which was endorsed by all major political parties. A copy of the Declaration of the Commitment is enclosed at Annexure-II.

The announcement about introduction of Antiretroviral treatment was made by the Government on the eve of World AIDS Day, 1st December 2004. As per assurance given, Anti retroviral treatment was rolled out in April 2004 at eight designated Government Hospitals, one each in six high prevalence states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland, and two in Delhi, in the following three priority groups of HIV/AIDS patients with effect from 1st April, 2004 :-

(a) Pregnant women registered under Prevention of Parents to Child Transmission Programme;

(b) Children below 15 years of age; and

(c) AIDS cases seeking treatment from government hospitals.

Government of India has launched free ARV roll out in the six high prevalence states and NCT of Delhi from 8 Medical institutions viz.

1. Sir J. J Hospital, Mumbai,

2. Institute of Thoracic Medicine, Thambaram,

3. CMC Vellore

4. Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad,

5. Bangalore Medical College, Karnataka,

6. RIMS, Kohima, Imphal,

7 LNJP Hospital, Delhi,

8. Dr. RML Hospital, Mew Delhi.

With effect from 1st April, 2004, approximately 900 people living with HIV/AIDS are already receiving Anti retro viral treatment from these centres. The National AIDS Control Organisation has in principle adopted the guidelines prepared by WHO in December, 2003, for resource constrained countries and the same are being followed.

Government will expand ART through additional ART treatment centres in the high prevalence states in the current year. ART will be expanded in a phased manner in all the medical colleges of high prevalence states and subsequently in district level hospitals.

ANNEXURE-I REPORTED NUMBER OF AIDS CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS AND UPTILL JUNE, 2004

(As reported by State AIDS Control Societies)

S.No	State	Reported in 2001	Reported in 2002	Reported in 2003	Reported in 2004 upto June
1	A&N Island	5	6	5	0
2	Andhra Pd.	732	1085	4123	1195
3	Arunachal Pd.	0	0	0	0
4	Assam	47	16	50	13
5	Bihar	63	28	9	0
6	Chandigarh	189	223	161	67
7	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0
8	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	158	106	114	30
10	Goa	48	68	174	37
11	Gujarat	713	1030	756	686
12	Haryana	76	53	54	46
13	Himachal Pd.	51	29	28	0
14	J & K	0	0	0	0
15	Karnataka	541	294	201	76
16	Kerala	259	385	626	73
17	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
18	Madhya Pd.	156	156	124	80
19	Maharashtra	2043	2801	2159	892
20	Manipur	307	582	1187	132
21	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
22	Mizoram	5	14	18	0
23	Nagaland	131	87	84	14
24	Orissa	47	15	1	0
25	Pondicherry	21	140	0	0
26	Punjab	40	59	21	37
27	Rajasthan	98	292	266	78
28	Sikkim	2	2	2	0
29	Tamil Nadu	7354	9101	7130	0
30	Tripura	0	5	0	0
31	Uttar Pradesh	229	359	339	121
32	West Bengal	207	969	611	0
33	Ahmedabad M.C	189	78	0	0
34	Mumbai MC	0	1017	2913	919
	Total	13711	19000	21156	4496

Annexure II Declaration on Political Leadership in Combating HIV/AIDS

Adopted in New Delhi on 26 July 2003 at the India's first National Convention of the Parliamentary Forum on HIV/AIDS, on July 26-27

We, the activists of the political parties

RECOGNIZE that as political workers we have a crucial role, both individually and collectively as the link between the people and the government, as advocates for the rights and needs of people, as legislators to make laws to protect these rights, and as policy-makers to mobilize resources, involve civil society and create the enabling environment necessary to fight HIV/AIDS.

ARE CONVINCED that together we can overcome the HIV/AIDS epidemic, prevent its further spread, work for an enabling environment and alleviate the impact of the epidemic.

Have gathered at this National Convention of Elected Representatives being held today at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, to reaffirm our collective commitment to mobilize communities against the spread and impact of HIV/AIDS. We solemnly declare to:

ENSURE leadership by everyone in his/her area of responsibility in the fight against HIV/AIDS by intensifying advocacy, allocating and raising resources and guiding the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic both in prevention and care within our constituencies in particular and the country as a whole;

PROMOTE a positive environment by confronting stigma, silence and denial, eliminating discrimination and ensuring the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedom by people living with HIV/AIDS.

ASSURE gender equality and the empowerment of women as a fundamental element in the reduction of the vulnerability of women and children to HIV/AIDS

TAKE STEPS to ensure that the response includes a focus on youth

INTENSIFY AND STRENGTHEN multisectoral collaboration and mobilizing for full and active part of a wide range of non-governmental organizations, the business sector, media, community based organizations, religious leaders, families, citizens as well as people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in the planning, implementation and valuation of the response to HIV/AIDS.