

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2802

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008

EFFECTIVENESS OF MICROBICIDES IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

Murmu Shri Hemlal;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

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

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn towards the news item "Yaun Rogo Se Mukti Dilayega Microbicides" published in 'Dainik Jagran' dated February 25, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government including coordination activities to control such diseases in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Microbicides are anti-microbial products that could reduce the risk of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases when applied vaginally. Research on microbicides is being carried out world wide. At present they are not available for use.

(c): Various steps taken by Government including coordination activities to control such disease in the country include the following:-

i) Voluntary counseling and testing of vulnerable population.

ii) Targeted interventions for High Risk Groups and Vulnerable Population.

iii) Measures for Blood Safety through voluntary blood donation and regularizing Blood Banks.

iv) Prevention and management of sexually transmitted infections.

v) Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission.

vi) Identification and treatment of eligible persons living with HIV/AIDS.

vii) General awareness for prevention of HIV/AIDS.

viii) Coordination with other ministries, departments and sectors of mainstreaming, prevention and control of HIV/AIDS.