

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3444

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2010

AIDS AND TUBERCULOSIS

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes first line treatment for HIV-patients in Government Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) centre;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to redesign National Tuberculosis Programme to address secondary infection in the form of drug-resistant tuberculosis;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of grants/financial assistance received by the country for various foreign agencies/countries to control Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Tuberculosis?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a) & (b) Yes, the Government is already providing free first line treatment for HIV patients since April, 2004. At present, a total of 335232 patients are receiving free ART at 281 ART Centres as on June, 2010. The State wise details of ART Centres and patients on ART is at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d) No. The State level drug resistance surveys undertaken recently in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have shown that the implementation of Revised National TB Control Programme has been successful in maintaining the prevalence of drug resistant TB at low levels in the community.

While the prevention of drug resistance by providing quality DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short course) services is the key focus, the programme has initiated DOTS Plus services for the management of the prevalent multidrug resistant TB (MDR-TB) cases to reduce their suffering and cut the transmission of the disease. The DOTS Plus services have been launched in 2007 in Gujarat and Maharashtra and are presently available in 10 States with over 2100 MDR-TB patients having been initiated on treatment. The services are being scaled up in a phased manner with an objective of universal coverage by 2012.

(e) The details of grant/financial assistance received by country from foreign agencies/ countries to control AIDS and Tuberculosis for last three years is at Annexure-II.