

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4587

ANSWERED ON:20.08.2010

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST AIDS PATIENTS

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

- (a) the details of schemes launched by the Government for prevention of discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients alongwith the cases of such discrimination reported so far;
- (b) the details of NGOs and experts working in this area;
- (c) the details of funds allocated for prevention of HIV/AIDS during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the details of various schemes launched/proposed by the Government to encourage blood donation by young people and ensuring the safety and sufficiency in blood supply as prescribed by the National Accreditation Board;
- (e) whether the Government has made the blood screening mandatory;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the status of scheme for setting up NAT Laboratories in the country?

Answer

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

- (a): Government of India has issued directives to all concerned authorities at the National and State level to ensure that there is no stigma and discrimination against People Living with HIV (PLHIV) at health care facilities or otherwise. State level Grievance Redressal Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of concerned Health Secretaries to address grievances of PLHIV. National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) conducts regular media campaigns to sensitize the people on HIV/AIDS related issues including stigma and discrimination faced by PLHIV. Trainings of health workers, self help groups, members of Panchayati Raj Institutions and other stakeholders are also conducted on the issue.
- (b): The issue of stigma and discrimination is addressed through all interventions implemented by NACO. Special projects on stigma and discrimination are under implementation by NACO in association with 12 NGOs to address the issues at the institutional and community level. The list of NGOs is attached at Annexure- A.
- (c): The details of funds allocated to States/UT for Annual Action Plans for the period 2007-08 to 2010-11 are enclosed at Annexure-B
- (d): Media campaigns are conducted regularly by NACO to promote voluntary blood donation. Special blood donation drives are launched from time to time in association with youth organisations such as NYKS, NSS, Red Ribbon Clubs (RRC) in colleges and also in partnership with Indian Red Cross Society.
- (e) & (f): Yes sir. As per Schedule "F" in Part XII B of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, it is mandatory on the part of the blood banks to screen blood to ensure that it is free from the diseases mentioned in the Schedule.
- (g) Under the blood safety activities of National AIDS Control Programme, Phase-III, presently, there is no scheme to set up NAT laboratories in the country.