

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:76

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

TREATMENT OF HIV AIDS PATIENTS

Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai;Shekhar Shri Neeraj

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

- (a) whether as per the report of the World Health Organisation, a large number of HIV/AIDS affected patients, particularly children do not have access to the Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the facts in this regard indicating the availability and requirement of ART facility in the country, States/UT-wise;
- (c) the total number of HIV/AIDS patients in the country alongwith the number of children suffering from the disease, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the number of HIV cases particularly among children detected during each of the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the effective measures taken/proposed by the Government to meet the ART requirement in the country and provide free treatment/drugs to the HIV/AIDS patients including children?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 76 FOR 12TH NOVEMBER, 2010

It is not correct that a large number of HIV/AIDS affected patients, particularly children, do not have access to Anti-Retroviral Treatment in the country. As per WHO report on Universal Access (2010), 55% of PLHIV in India have access to antiretroviral therapy (ART), based on approved, present eligibility criteria of CD4 value.

As on date, 285 ART centers are operational in the country wherein 355,239 patients are receiving free ART. A State wise list of ART centers and number of patients on ART are at Annexure I.

The total number of HIV/ AIDS patients in the country along with the number of children suffering form disease, State/ UT wise is enclosed at Annexure II.

The number of HIV cases including children detected during last three years and in the current year so far, State/ UT wise is enclosed at Annexure III.

The ART program was started in April 2004 at 8 centers and has been up scaled to 285 centers at present. These centers are located in medical colleges, district hospitals and some sub- district hospitals based on prevalence of HIV in the area and capacity of the hospital to provide treatment facilities. For setting up of new ART centers, the number of patients from the catchment area and their access to the facility is considered. All 285 ART centers also cater to the treatment needs of Children Living With HIV/AIDS. All the facilities for treatment of patients including children are free in these centers. It is planned to provide free treatment to 6,00,000 patients through 375 ART centers and 1200 Link ART Centers by 2016.