

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3950  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011  
IDENTIFICATION OF HIV/AIDS INFECTED PATIENTS  
Chaudhary Shri Jayant

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a recent report published by UNAIDS, titled 'AIDS at 30-Nations at the Crossroads', which contradicts the National AIDS Control Organization's (NACO) claims on number of HIV/AIDS patients and Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) coverage in India;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the facts in this regard;
- (c) the estimated number of people infected with HIV alongwith the number out of them detected/identified so far in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has set any target to identify all the people infected with HIV and put them on Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) in the country; and
- (e) if so, the action plan drawn for the purpose?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIS. GANDHISELVAN)

- (a) & (b): No. The said report has not been received at National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO). However, the report as available on the UNAIDS website has been seen at NACO. This report suggests that during 2009, nearly 5.80 lakh patients are estimated to be detected as HIV positive at Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTCs) and are in need of Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) at CD4 eligibility of 250 cells/cu.mm. As per the programme data, 4.26 lakh HIV positive persons are receiving free ART against a cumulative number of 13,20,797 HIV persons registered in 313 ART Centres in the country. Once a person is registered, his/her clinical assessment is done along with base line CD4 count to assess whether the HIV infected persons is suffering from AIDS or not. Only after the CD4 count is below 250 cells/cu.mm and/or there is evidence of AIDS defining illness, the patient is to put on ART as per 'National Guidelines'.
- (c): The State/UT-wise details of estimated number of people infected with HIV in 2009 and the number out of them detected up to 31st March 2011 are Annexed.
- (d) & (e): In order to identify the people infected with HIV/AIDS, 5246 Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTCs) are functional in the country to provide pre-test counselling and offer HIV testing to different vulnerable population in the community.