

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7052

ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012

ANTI RETROVIRAL TREATMENT FOR HIV AIDS PATIENTS

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

- (a) the total number of men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS indicating the number out of them receiving treatment in the Anti Retroviral Treatment (ART) centres across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has urged India to scale up treatment facilities for people living with HIV/AIDS particularly HIV positive mothers and children;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes certain new measures/strategies including behavioural changes and gene therapy for protection and treatment of HIV/AIDS patients at early stage of infection; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHI SELVAN)

(a) The Government is providing free Anti-Retroviral treatment to eligible HIV infected patients through 355 Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) centres and 725 link ART centres across the country. As on 31st March 2012, a total of 15,29,031 PLHIV (people living with HIV/AIDS) are registered at ART centres. Out of them 5,16,412 eligible patients are receiving free ART. The State/UT-wise details of men, women & children is at annexed.

(b) to (c) In June 2011, the United nations General Assembly, in its 65th session adopted the "Political declaration on HIV/ AIDS. The declaration urged the member countries to scale up significantly efforts towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support. In this regard, Government of India is committed to provide treatment facilities to all eligible people living with HIV/AIDS including HIV positive mothers and children.

(d) to (e) National AIDS Control Programme has a strong IEC component which focuses on awareness generation & behaviour change through various mode of communication. At present, there is no strategy to include gene therapy for protection and treatment of HIV/AIDS patients at early stage of infection.