

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1493

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

HIV AIDS AMONG ADOLESCENTS

Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Sivasami Shri C.;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether as per a latest UNICEF report, AIDS-related deaths amongst adolescents is rising and many adolescents are unaware of HIV/AIDS infection in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) the total number of HIV/AIDS infected adolescent population and the number of new cases of HIV infection and attributable deaths among adolescents reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the action plan drawn by the Government to prevent HIV/AIDS infections among adolescents and the funds earmarked and utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) has proposed to lower the age for availing the facilities being provided under the National AIDS Control Programme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has evaluated the AIDS project launched by Avahan India AIDS initiative in preventing HIV infections in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY)

(a): (i) As per available data, we do not have segregated information of deaths amongst adolescents.

(ii) No

(b): The programme is capturing the data in the following age groups, viz; less than 14 years, 15 to 24 years, 25 to 34 years, 35 to 49 years and More than 50 years. As per WHO, an adolescent is young person of age 10 to 19 years. The adolescent cases found HIV +ve will fit in to the age group Less than 14 years and 15-24 years. A State/UT wise statement depicting the HIV +ve cases for the age group i) less than 14 years and ii) 15 to 24 years, for the last three years is annexed at ANNEX-I

Adolescence Education Programme (AEP).

Separate activity head "School/College AIDS Education Programme/Information" has been opened under IEC Component.

Funds allocated and utilized under the above activity head under IEC Component during the last three years and current year is given in the enclosed ANNEX- II

(d): Current guidelines are in line with global reporting format that takes the age of child as equivalent to or less than 15 and those above 15 years are taken as adults.

There is no proposal of age limit for availing the facilities.

(e): AVAHAN was implementing HIV prevention programme (Targeted Intervention) among Female Sex Workers (FSW), Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), Injecting Drug Users (IDU) and Truckers under National AIDS Control Programme Phase II & Phase III. AVAHAN was implementing intervention programmes in selected districts of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Manipur and Nagaland.

As per the AVAHAN Phase 2 policy these interventions had to be handed over to the respective SACS. Department of AIDS Control constituted expert teams to assess the performance of those interventions before transition to national programme. Assessment was focused on whether these interventions are aligned with national programme, baseline for coverage of high risk population, service delivery, funding pattern, training and capacity development activities.

Gaps observed through the assessment process had been shared with AVAHAN to work out activities to address those gaps. Activities were designed as pre transition plan and there were activities, basically capacity building and monitoring by AVAHAN, as post transition activities.