

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2442

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014

HIV/AIDS PATIENTS

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

- (a) the number of HIV/AIDS patients in various age groups in the rural and urban areas of the country, separately, State/UT wise;
- (b) the growth/decline in number of people suffering from HIV/AIDS registered during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has set any goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country and if so, the action plan drawn by the Government for the purpose;
- (d) the objectives of Red Ribbon Express along with the extent to which these were met indicating the areas covered thereby, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to bring HIV/AIDS patients under the insurance coverage and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a): A total number of 7,77,485 patients are receiving free treatment from different Anti- Retroviral treatment facilities in the country as on 31 May 2014. The programme maintains data into two age categories patients below 15 years of age and patients above 15 years of age. The state/UT wise breakup of patients in above mentioned two age groups are given at Annexure I. Programme does not maintain data for rural and urban groups separately.

(b): The testing facilities in the country have diagnosed

- i) 2,85,152 positive cases in year 2011-2012
- ii) 2,45,859 positive cases in year 2012-13
- iii) 2,39,763 positive cases in year 2013-14 and
- iv) 35,436 cases in April and May 2014.

The state/UT wise break up of persons tested HIV positive are given at Annexure II

(c): The goal of National AIDS Control Programme is to accelerate reversal and integrate response towards the HIV/AIDS epidemic in India. There has been a reduction in the new infections by 57 % during the last decade from 2.74 lakhs in 2000 to 1.16 lakhs in 2011. Under NACP IV (2012-17) it is planned to further accelerate the reversal of the epidemic. The key objectives are to reduce the new infections by 50 % (2007 baseline of NACP III) and provide comprehensive care and support to all persons living with HIV/AIDS and treatment services for all those who require it. The NACP IV (2012-17) plan include:

- i) Intensifying and consolidating prevention services, with a focus on HRGs and vulnerable population
- ii) Increasing access and promoting comprehensive care, support and treatment
- iii) Expanding IEC services for general population and high risk groups with a focus on behavior change and demand generation
- iv) Building capacities at national, state, district and facility levels along with
- v) strengthening strategic information management system

(d) : The following objectives of Red Ribbon Express were successfully met:-

- i) Disseminating information regarding prevention and services;
- ii) Developing an understanding about the infection to reduce stigma & discrimination against People Living with HIV/AIDS;
- iii) Strengthening people's knowledge about the measures to be taken to prevent HIV/AIDS; and
- iv) Adopting preventive health habits and life style. Red Ribbon Express covered 22 states and 1 Union Territory. The State/UT wise breakup of railway stations covered during the year 2012-13 of Red Ribbon Express is given at Annexure III

(e): HIV/AIDS patients who are below the poverty line (BPL) are eligible to Rashtriya Swasthaya Bima Yojana (RSBY), run by Government of India, but most other life and insurance schemes exclude insurance coverage for HIV/AIDS and related ailments.

Department of AIDS Control is engaging with Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA), and Ministry of Finance to bring HIV/AIDS patients under the insurance coverage.