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Title: Need to take suitable measures to check the spread of AIDS in the country.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): There are about 5.1 million AIDS victims in India. Most of them belong to the age group of 15-24 years. Irony is that, young women are also affected. The spread of the cases in India is due to lack of awareness among the youths. Another reason is the distortion of minds after watching obscenities shown on Television – both by private and official – which provoke the minds of the youths towards sexual activities. Recent survey has shown that most of the positive HIV cases belong to these adolescent groups enjoying pre-marital sex. Also, many women economically dependent on men, may not have the power to resist sex or ask partner to use condom.

In order to bring down the cases of AIDS in India, the following steps must be taken immediately:

1. Regulation of TV channels to ensure that obscenity provoking minds of youths should not be allowed to telecast;
2. Adequate mass awareness programmes in rural areas, semi-urban areas and in schools and colleges to enlighten the youths about AIDS, the dreaded disease.
3. Supply of condoms free from different important public places.
4. Only such measures will halt the spread of the disease.

I request the Union Government to take necessary action in this regard.