

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
SPECIAL TREATMENT TO AIDS AND HEPATITIS - B
ANANT GANGARAM GEETE;DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

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

- (a) whether the Government have issued any special instructions to the States to provide special treatment to the patients suffering from AIDS and Hepatitis `B`;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many hospitals throughout the country do not admit such patients;
- (c) if so, the arrangements made by the Government to treat such patients; and
- (d) the efforts made by the Government to create awareness amongst the people and medical staff in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 244 FOR 6.12.2000

The Government has issued detailed instructions to all States/UTs to provide treatment to patients suffering from AIDS & Hepatitis `B`. Government is providing funds to all States / UTs for procurement of drugs for treatment of Opportunistic Infections related to HIV/AIDS. All States/UTs. have been provided guidelines for treatment of HIV/AIDS patients.

Government has initiated a comprehensive training programme for health functionaries covering all three tiers of health care system i.e. primary, secondary and tertiary. During the IInd Phase of the National AIDS Control Programme, State level trainers have been trained in State Medical colleges who in turn train other medical, para medical and auxiliary staff and district core team of trainers. The objective of the training programme is to attain saturation training in all public sector hospitals and health care centers. Training of private practitioners is being conducted through Indian Medical Association and other professional bodies. For standardization and uniformity of the training, training modules for various categories of workers have been developed and are provided during training sessions.

Government is also using print, electronic and folk media for creating awareness amongst the people. A Nation-wide Family Health Awareness Campaign is being conducted by all States/UTs with the objective to create awareness amongst rural and slum population.

As there is a fear in the minds of the health workers of acquiring HIV infection while treating HIV/AIDS patients, Government has provided guidelines for Hospital Infection Control Measures and Post-exposure Prophylaxis. The drugs for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis are provided in Government hospitals free to health care workers in the event of any accidental exposure to HIV infection while managing HIV/AIDS patients to instill confidence among them to treat such patients.