

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:207

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005

AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Manvendra Singh Shri ;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) the amount sanctioned and spent on AIDS awareness campaign during the last three years;
- (b) whether any new scheme to speed up AIDS awareness campaign is under consideration of the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether kits for conducting `home test for virus that causes AIDS` are available to people in foreign countries like USA;
- (e) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to make such test kits available in India; and
- (f) if so, the time by which these are likely to be made available in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 207 FOR 7TH DECEMBER, 2005.

During the last three years, an amount of Rs.209.59 crores was allocated for spreading awareness on HIV/AIDS. Of this, an amount of Rs.132.69 crores has been spent. While efforts so far made have enabled us to spread awareness to an estimated 85% of the population, in rural areas there is still an awareness gap which varies between 20 to 25 percent. Therefore, innovative approaches are now being designed which focus upon promoting condoms both for the protection against HIV/AIDS as well as unwanted pregnancies, campaigns for promoting voluntary counseling and testing and taking the awareness generation initiatives to rural areas below the district level. These campaigns are addressing the youth and are being designed around using celebrities and the promotion of family values.

Home kits for conducting tests for the virus that cause HIV infection are available in developed countries. There is no proposal to make such Home Kits introduced in India at present.