

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:210

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2016

HIV/AIDS

Simha Shri Prathap;Singh Shri Bhola

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

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

(a) whether as per an estimation of the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), approximately 2.08 million people are living with HIV in India and the United Nations (UN) has also reported that India has the third largest number of people living with HIV in the world, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether coverage rate for HIV patients in India is only about 36 percent;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons for this low level of coverage; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase coverage rate for HIV patients including making available the required drugs/medicines and patient care for this disease?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 210\* FOR 11TH MARCH, 2016

(a) As per India HIV estimation 2015 report, an estimated 21.17 lakh people are living with HIV.

Yes, India has the third largest number of people living with HIV in the world. The other two countries having higher numbers are South Africa (68 lakh) and Nigeria (34 lakh) [Source: UNAIDS estimates 2014].

The details of estimated number of people living with HIV, State/UTs-wise is at Annexure.

(b) & (c) Though about 21.17 lakh people are estimated to be living with HIV (PLHV), yet Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) is started only for those patients whose CD4 count becomes less than 350. The total number of patients with CD4 count of less than 350 is estimated as 13,45,678. Out of this, the number of people on ART is 9.25 lakhs, making a coverage rate of 69%.

(d) Under the National AIDS Control Programme, (NACP) Phase-IV, National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) provides universal access to comprehensive, equitable, stigma-free, quality care, support and treatment services to all People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHV). At present, there are 524 ART Centres and 1,094 Link ART Centres in the country providing free Antiretroviral treatment, treatment for opportunistic infections and counseling services to 9.25 lakh PLHV. Based on HIV prevalence in different parts of the country, ART Centres and Link ART Centres are scaled up every year to match the demand. In addition, a total of 350 Care and Support Centres (CSCs) have been established through civil society organizations which complement the services provided by ART centres through counseling, outreach and linkage to need based other government welfare schemes and services. Constant efforts are made to increase awareness about HIV testing & treatment facilities for ensuring Universal access.

During the last three years, PLHV on ART have been increasing as follows:

March, 2013 - 6,32,397;

March, 2014- 7,59,242;

March, 2015 -8,51,883 and

Jan,2016- 9,25,451

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