## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:935 ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014 DISCRIMINATION OF HIV AIDS PATIENTS Arunmozhithevan Shri A.;Hari Shri G.

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

- (a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests/ rights of HIV/AIDS infected people and also to address the issues of discrimination, stigmatization and denial of medical treatment relating to them in the country;
- (b) whether cases of discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients and denial of admission/medical treatment to such patients have come to the notice of the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (d) whether shortage of life saving medicines for HIV/AIDS patients have been reported from certain parts in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

## THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a) The steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests/rights of HIV/AIDS infected people and also to address the issues of discrimination, stigmatization and denial of medical treatment relating to them in the country are :
- i) Addressing these issues through policies and programme guidelines under National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)
- ii) Technical Resource Group has been set up for providing necessary guidance and assistance to National AIDS Control Programme for developing National framework to address HIV related stigma and discrimination.
- iii) State Grievance Redressal Committees have been set up at state level to protectthe interests/ rights of HIV/AIDS infected people
- iv) The Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Preventionand Control) Bill, 2014 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha and is with the Standing Committee.
- (b) &( c): Except for two cases of denial of treatment at Kanpur and Varanasi, no cases of denial of admission/medical treatment relating to HIV/AIDS patients are reported in the country. Even these cases were enquired and duly resolved.
- (d) &( e): Out of 15 drugs being given as part of free treatment , Lopinavir + Ritonavir (LPV/r) syrup received through Clinton Health Action Initiative as donation had expired. However, the issue was resolved through expediting procurement & taking donation from CIPLA. The supply of another single pill tablet TLE( Tenofivir 300 mg + Lamivudine 300 mg + Efavirenz 600 mg) was also accelerated. Presently, there is no shortage of drugs and sufficient drug stocks are being maintained.

Further, a computerized Supply Chain Information Management System has been initiated for scientific assessment of drug requirement and their stocks, based on real time dispensation for better management.