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Title: Need to provide assistance to curb HIV/AIDS in Bellary district, Karnataka.

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Health Ministry about the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS incidence in Bellary District, Karnataka and about the successful steps being initiated by Bellary District AIDS Prevention Society (BDAPS) to bring it down with the help of "Coordinated HIV/AIDS Response through Capacity Building and Awareness" (CHARCA), a joint United Nations project in reducing women vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.[\[h78\]](#)

Sir, when the project was progressing and the population of 398 villages was covered, the Union Government suddenly stopped the project. Bellary was the only district in Karnataka and among the six districts in the country selected by UNDP for implementing the HIV AIDS - CHARCA programme. The main intention of the project was to bring down the spread of HIV infection among women between the age 13 to 25 years.

Sir, Bellary District AIDS Prevention Society is the only district level society in Karnataka and the second in the country, next to Mumbai Mahanagar Palika. Sir, the previous Union Government has announced to make Bellary as AIDS-free district. Among the other activities, the CHARCA village information centres were set up in 146 villages. The efforts put in by BDAPS and its partners had started yielding positive results with the HIV prevalence which was 1.7 per cent in the year 2003-2004 and has now come down to 1.1 per cent. Yet the percentage is considered as very high going by the national average.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is your demand?

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Sir, I am coming to my demand. It is surprising that suddenly the project has been stopped and there are no signs of it being extended. Such being the situation and Bellary facing a lot of immigration, there is an urgent need to extend this programme to the Bellary district.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to consider extending of the CHARCA scheme and provide necessary Central assistance to curb the prevalence of the HIV/AIDS in Bellary district.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on 5th March, 2008.

20.21 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on[\[r79\]](#) Wednesday, March 5, 2008/Phalgun 15, 1929(Saka).

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[\[R69\]](#) cd by d5

[\[MSOffice70\]](#) Fld F5

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[\[N71\]](#)

Cd by h5

Fd by L5 [\[r73\]](#)

[\[R74\]](#)cd. m5

[\[r76\]](#)fld by p5

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[\[r79\]](#) Friday, March 10, 2000/Phalguna 20, 1921 (Saka).