

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 05.08.2002**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SUICIDE BY AIDS AFFECTED PEOPLE IN BIHAR .**

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SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that AIDS affected people in Bihar are forced to commit suicide;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the scheme formulated by Government to provide sufficient treatment to the AIDS patients and to protect them from social stigma?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) No such information has been received by Bihar State AIDS Control Society.

(c) Govt. of India, through Bihar State AIDS Control Society provides the following services for treatment of HIV/AIDS Patients and to protect them from social stigma:

(i) Drugs for treatment of Opportunistic Infections (OIs) are provided free of cost in all major hospitals in the State.

(ii) To promote voluntary HIV counseling and testing, 12 Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centers (VCTCs) have been established.

(iii) For treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), 15 STD clinics have been established.

(iv) In order to ensure safe blood transfusion services, 5 major blood banks, 35 district blood banks and 1 component separation unit have been established.

(v) In order to create awareness about HIV/AIDS and STDs, Family Health Awareness Campaign (FHAC) was conducted during February-March, 2002.

(vi) In order to reduce social stigma and discrimination, associated with the HIV/AIDS, sensitization workshops have been conducted for Panchayat members, Municipal Councillors, Teachers, Medical and other Paramedical personnel etc. -