

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3502
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2025**

HIV SELF-TESTING

**3502: SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:
SMT. APARAJITA SARANGI:**

Will the MINISTER OF **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state :

- (a) the manner in which the Government plans to integrate HIV Self-Testing (HIVST) into the existing National AIDS and STD Control Programme (NACP) Phase-V;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the Self-Testing kits are affordable and accessible especially for marginalized and vulnerable populations;
- (c) the role of public-private partnerships in expanding the reach of HIV self-testing; and
- (d) whether there are any existing collaborations with private healthcare providers and NGOs and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): Under the National AIDS and STD Control Programme (NACP), a health care provider performs HIV screening coupled with pre-test and post-test counselling. The screened reactive cases undergo confirmatory testing for HIV with pre-test and post-test counselling at Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTCs) through a stringent three test algorithm to ensure that test results are accurate. Pre – test and post – test counselling is an integral part of HIV testing under the NACP due to the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV. Till date, the Drug Controller General of India has not issued certificate/ license to any HIV self – testing kit for use in the country. There is no provision to integrate HIV self-testing into the existing National AIDS and STD Control Programme (NACP) Phase-V.
