Enhancement of HIV counseling centres

3424. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that there were over 15,000 healthcare facilities offering counseling and testing across India in 2014 as against 67 HIV testing and counseling sites way back in 1997;

(b)   whether it is also a fact that these 15000 testing centres have failed to check spread of HIV;

(c)   if so, the reasons therefor;

(d)   whether Government is also considering enhancing the number of HIV counseling centres in the coming years; and

(e)   if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, presently a total of 18,018 Integrated Counseling and Testing Centres (ICTC) [Stand Alone ICTCs 5,559 Facility Integrated ICTCs (F-ICTCs) 10,306 & PPP-FICTCs: 2,153] are providing HIV counseling and testing services under National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) in the country.

(b) and (c) No. "HIV Estimates 2012" have shown that there has been an overall reduction in adult HIV prevalence, new HIV infections and AIDS related deaths in the country, reflecting the impact of scaled up prevention and treatment programmes, including the scale up of counseling and testing centres as well as IEC activities across the country.

(d) and (e) Yes. Under the National AIDS Control Programme Phase - IV, it has been planned to establish new 505 Stand Alone ICTCs and 2,737 F-ICTCs across the country over the next two financial years *i.e*. 2015-16 and 2016-17. Guidelines and instructions have already been shared with all the State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) in India to initiate actions for setting up the new centres, as a part of the annual action plans.

Implementation of NPCDCS

3425. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact, that a National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) is being implemented;