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Seats in five medical colleges to be increased

Some 33 HIV positive cases were detected in the country so far and three of them had died, Parliament was told on Monday, reports UNB.

Replying to a question from Mohammed Neyamatullah (BNP), Deputy Minister for Health Dr. Sirajul Haq said the remaining 30 patients carrying HIV positive were now under treatment.

He said that a long-term anti-AIDS project, financed and assisted by UNDP and the World Bank, was awaiting approval of the government.

Besides, a National AIDS Committee, headed by Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, has been working against the spread of the killer disease, he added.

The Deputy Minister, replying to a question of Abur Rouf Chowdhury (BNP), said that at present, the government has no plan to set up ECG machine at thana health complexes due to lack of sufficient doctors specialised in heart diseases.

To another question, he replied that the concerned authorities were planning to increase the number of seats by 25 in each of the medical colleges at Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Sylhet, Rangpur and Barisal from 1994-95 academic year.

He said the number of seats for admission in Dinajpur, Comilla, Bogra, Khulna and Faridpur medical colleges will also be increased on completion of their five-year period. The present admission capacity of each of these colleges is 50.

Replying to a supplementary, Dr. Haq said posts of 55 professors in different medical colleges are lying vacant and steps are being taken to fill up these posts.

Replying to Sirajul Islam (BNP), the Deputy Minister informed the House that some 15,327 people died of diarrhoea in the country since January 1, 1990.