

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2779

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008

QUALITY CONTROL AND STANDARDS FOR BLOOD BANKS

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Sharma Shri Madan Lal;Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

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

(a) whether the blood banks in the country have not adopted the prescribed quality standards and organized storage system, which results in the spread of deadly viruses like HIV and Hepatitis B through blood transfusion;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) has planned a programme to ensure quality control standards for blood; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) No Sir. Standards have been prescribed by the National Blood Transfusion Council to be followed by blood banks in the country. Under the Drug & Cosmetic Act, all the blood units have to be stored in proper storage conditions after mandatory testing for five transfusion transmissible infections, namely HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis and Malaria.

(c) & (d). National Accreditation Board for Healthcare Providers (NABH) has launched the accreditation programme for Blood Banks/Blood Centres and Transfusion Services on January 25, 2008. The accreditation programme strives to ensure quality and safety in the collection, processing, testing and transfusion of blood products. The basis for assessment of blood bank will include compliance with the accreditation standards and national requirements.