

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1363
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010
QUALITY STANDARDS IN BLOOD BANKS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether blood banks in the country are not adopting quality standards and organized storage system resulting in the spread of deadly viruses like HIV and Hepatitis B through transfusions;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch of programme to ensure quality control standards for blood;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the shortage of blood in the blood banks and to ensure availability of virus-free blood?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) & (b) No

(c) & (d) National Accreditation Board for Healthcare Providers (NABH) has launched accreditation programme for Blood Banks/Blood Centres and Transfusion Services on January 25, 2008. The accreditation programme strives to the quality and safety of collecting, processing, testing and transfusion of blood products. The basis for assessment of blood bank shall include compliance with the accreditation standard and national requirements. The accreditation programme assesses the quality and operational systems comprehensively in place with in the facility.

(e) The Government of India has taken the following steps to make adequate arrangements of blood in the blood banks and to ensure availability of viruses free blood;

i) Augmentation of voluntary blood donation by conducting 50340 Voluntary Blood Donation Camps annually in the country.

ii) As per the Drug & Cosmetics Act 1940 & Rules there under, it is mandatory for all licensed blood banks to screen for HIV (AIDS), Hepatitis B & C, Syphilis and Malaria.