

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3226
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2010
BLOOD BANKS
Bheiravdanji Shri Gadhi Mukeshkumar

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote the Indian Red Cross and its various Branches;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the State Governments for establishment of Blood Banks in the country?
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the present status of such proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) has been established as an autonomous body under the Indian Red Cross Society Act XV of 1920 (As amended by Act No. 22 of 1956 and the adaption of Laws (No.4) Order 1957 and Act 14 of 1992). The role of the Central Government in the management and functioning of IRCS has been defined under the provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder. The Managing Body of IRCS consists of eighteen members including six members nominated by the President of India in her capacity as the President of IRCS and a Chairman. The Minister of Health and Family Welfare is the Chairperson of IRCS. The Managing Body of IRCS is the supreme body which takes all the decisions, including policy decisions, for governance of the Indian Red Cross Society.

(c) Health is a State subject. The Union Government does not establish Blood Banks in the Country. State license Authority issues licenses to the State Blood Bank. Drugs Controller General (India) is responsible for approval of Blood Bank licenses issued by the State licensing Authority.

(d) & (e) Do not arise.