

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1555
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011
EYE BANKS
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) the total number of eye banks in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the performance of these eye banks;
- (c) if so, the findings thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to upgrade them and set up new eye banks in the uncovered areas of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas selected therefor, location-wise, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

- (a): There are around 666 Eye Banks in the Country.State/UT wise list is Annexed.
- (b) & (c): The performance of all components including Eye Banks under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) is constantly assessed and monitored through multiple monitoring mechanism including analysis of structured monthly and quarterly reports, official visits by the concerned officers, periodical review meetings/workshops at the centre, state and district levels etc. The overall level of collection of donated eyes for corneal transplantation has improved from around 28,000 during 2005-06 to 46,600 during 2009-10.
- (d) & (e): The target under NPCB during the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12) is to develop a network of 30 Eye Banks in the country to facilitate collection and processing of donated eyes by providing non-recurring assistance upto Rs.15 lakh per unit.NPCB being a de-centralized scheme, selection of Eye Banks for support under the programme and their field/area of work is done by the State Governments.