

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:909

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011

TRANSFUSION OF HIV CONTAMINATED BLOOD

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

- (a) the number of hospitals having blood banks and the facility of administering a blood transfusion and blood components in the country;
- (b) the step taken/proposed to equip all the hospitals with the facility, particularly in rural and remote areas of the country;
- (c) the mechanism and guidelines laid down by the Government to check and ensure the quality and safety of donated blood before their transfusion to the needy patients in the hospitals and blood banks;
- (d) whether transfusion of HIV contaminated blood in certain hospitals including Junagadh Civil Hospital in Gujarat has recently come to the notice of the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed by the Government thereon, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

- (a) As per information provided by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation and state AIDS Control Societies, there are 1739 number of hospitals having blood bank and facility administering a blood transfusion and blood components in the country.
- (b) Under the scheme for modernisation of blood banks, Government of India is providing one time equipment and recurring grant and consumables to the blood banks in the public sector upto district level blood collection, screening and storage as required under existing provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. In addition establishment of blood storage centres is also supported through National Rural Health Mission in the below district facilities to ensure availability of safe blood in the rural and remote areas of the country.
- (c) The blood banks are regulated as per provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. Under the rules, it is provided that every unit of blood issued by the blood bank should be tested for freedom from HIV-1/2, Hepatitis B surface antigen, Hepatitis C virus, syphilis and malarial parasite and labeled accordingly.
- (d) & (e) The issue of transfusion of HIV contaminated blood came to the notice of the Government. Investigations were carried out. Investigation team did not confirm that there was transfusion of HIV contaminated blood in Junagarh Civil hospital.