

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:187
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014
FUNCTIONING OF BLOOD BANKS
Giluwa Shri Laxman

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

- (a) The number of blood banks in public and private sector, State/UT-wise;
- (b) Whether the Government has received any complaint of alleged irregularities and non-compliance of rules including exploitation/harassment of buyers by the blood bank officials in connivance with the employees working in Government hospitals;
- (c) If so, the details thereof including the number of such complaints reported along with the action taken against the erring officials/employees during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) Whether the Government has reviewed or proposes to review the functioning of blood banks, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) The mechanism put in place for regulating the activities of blood banks, particularly in private sector in order to protect the interest of consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 187 FOR 05TH DECEMBER, 2014

- (a) The total number of blood banks in public & private sector is 2635. State/ UT wise details are at Annexure 'A'.
- (b) & (c) As per the information provided by the Drugs Controller General of India DCG(I) and obtained from State AIDS Control Societies, the details of complaints and action taken, in last three years, are given at Annexure 'B'.
- (d) & (e) Yes. There are two mechanisms of reviewing the functioning of blood banks. Blood having been classified as a Drug, Blood Bank activities are regulated under Drugs & Cosmetics Act & Rules there under. Every Blood Bank is required to obtain a license from DCG(I) for operation under this Act & Rules, and follow the conditions of license for conduct of its activities.

During their operations, the functioning of Blood Bank is monitored by respective State Government through the office of Drug Controller through annual inspections and surprise visits to take the cognizance of fulfilling regulatory requirements. For general quality improvement and augmentation of facilities in blood banks and encouragement of voluntary blood donation, a body 'National Blood Transfusion Council' (NBTC) has been formed as per the Supreme Court decision in 1996.

Recently the NBTC has constituted a "National Blood Transfusion Services Core Coordination Committee", chaired by the Director General of Health Services, Government of India, (Member, and NBTC) to review the functioning of blood banks in the country. This committee is required to meet quarterly to review the state of blood transfusion services in the country.