

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3107  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005  
HIV INFECTION THROUGH BLOOD TRANSFUSION  
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) the number of Government and Private Blood Banks functioning in the country;
- (b) the number of them having the facility of carrying out HIV tests;
- (c) the number of people having contracted HIV infection because of blood transfusion;
- (d) the average cost of testing blood before transfusion; and
- (e) the measures the Government proposes to take to prevent the spread of HIV through blood transfusion and the availability of blood to the poor people at reasonable cost ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE ( SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) There are 2177 licensed blood banks in the country of which 855 blood banks are in Government sector, 288 in charitable sector and 1034 in private sector.
- (b) All the 2177 licensed blood banks have the facility of carrying out HIV test.
- (c) The Surveillance report of NACO has detected 2322 cases (1.99%) of all HIV infection in the country is attributed to blood transfusion since 1986 to 30th November 2005.
- (d) The processing cost of blood is estimated to about Rupees Five hundred only (Rs.500/-) per unit, which is collected as a service charge from the patient.
- (e) All licensed blood banks in the country require to screen every donated blood units mandatorily for HIV, Hepatitis B & C, Syphilis and Malaria before they are transfused to the patient.

Beside, all blood banks are insisted to collect blood from healthy and safe donors, preferably regular voluntary blood donors.

Further in order to ensure strict adherence to norms in the blood banks, the licenses of the blood banks are renewed after due verification of the availability of the requisite infrastructure with the blood banks as prescribed in Drug & Cosmetic Rules.

A service charge of Rs. 500 is collected for each blood unit. However, no service charge is collected from patients with Thalassemia, Hemophilia as well as poor patients.