

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:231  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007  
MODERNISATION OF BLOOD BANKS  
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) the number of licensed blood banks which have been modernized by National AIDS Control Organisation in the country as on December 31, 2006;
- (b) whether a number of blood banks which have been given financial assistance do not have any licence to function;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by NACO to set up at least one modernized blood bank in each district in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 231 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2007

National AIDS Control Programme under the Blood Safety component, provides one time equipment grant and annual recurring grant for establishing Blood Banks in Government, Voluntary and Charitable sector. Under this scheme, 1230 blood banks have been modernized as on 31st December 2006.

Under Drugs and Cosmetics Act/Rules 1945, 'Blood' is classified as a 'drug'. As per the provisions laid down under the act, every blood bank has to be licensed after fulfillment of essential requirements of physical infrastructure, equipment and trained manpower. Therefore, only licensed blood banks are eligible for obtaining any kind of assistance from NACO or any other government agency.

Presently, there are 39 districts which do not have any government supported blood bank. On providing the required infrastructure by States, these districts will also be covered under the scheme.