

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2899
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd AUGUST, 2018**

CORD BLOOD BANKS

2899. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR:

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

- (a) whether there is a marked increase in the number of Cord Blood (CB) banks in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has taken note of the reports that over 500 unregistered companies dealing with Cord Blood cells are fleecing unsuspecting consumers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard; and
- (d) the details of initiatives taken by the Government to regulate private stem cell banks and curb unethical practices in cord blood and stem cell banking in the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) to (c): The Government has not received any such report. Total number of licensed Umbilical Cord Blood Banks in the Country remains 22 since 2016.

(d): Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare regulates blood banks including Umbilical Cord Blood Banks as per provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945. The collection, processing, testing, storage, banking and release of Umbilical Cord Blood Derived Stem Cells are carried out as per Schedule F Part XII-D of the said Rules.