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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3269 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08,2022

WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY

3269. SHRIMATI MANJULATA MANDAL: SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI: SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR: DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has observed World Blood Donor Day recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the theme of the event and initiatives undertaken therein;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to push for a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration, creating opportunities and raise public awareness for safe blood donation in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the blood bank facilities are not available in several districts in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any blood bank policy stipulating setting up at least one blood bank in every district across the country including Odisha?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

- (a) to (c): World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) was observed on **14th June**, **2022**, all over the country involving States/UTs, other Central Government Ministries, Central Government Institutions & Hospitals, Medical Colleges etc. The theme of World Blood Donor Day 2022 was "**Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives".** The details are as follows:
- (i) A letter was issued by the Secretary (Health) on 1st June to all States/UTs and Central Government Ministries followed by a meeting with the States held on 7-6-2022 for planning and sensitising about various awareness activities to be organized on 'World Blood Donor Day (WBDD)'

- (ii) The facility for blood group testing was made available on 14th June, 2022 at health centres, hospitals and blood banks to help the common citizens to know their blood group as it will be useful in emergencies for the purpose of blood donation.
- (iii) The Pledge for blood donation was administered in various organizations, medical colleges etc. The Blood Donation Pledge facility was also provided online on MyGov platform. All those who wish to pledge may visit the following link https://pledge.mygov.in/world-blood-donorday-2022/
- (iv) Facility for registration of persons willing for blood donation has been enabled on Aarogya Setu App to facilitate voluntary blood donation.
- (v) The e-RaktKosh web portal was earmarked to serve as the interface for Blood Centres/Blood Banks and also has facility for registering voluntary blood donors. For this, all blood banks are encouraged to register on e-RaktKosh web-portal. An Advisory in this regard was issued by DCGI on 3-6-2022.
- (vi) Campaign to promote voluntary blood donation was carried out through social media.
- (vii) Because of huge campaign carried out by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the # World Blood Donor Day was trending at No. 1 on twitter on 14th June, 2022.
- (viii) Various awareness activities to promote blood donation, blood donation pledging, blood group testing etc. were carried out by States/UTs also.

Government engages with different Government departments, Public sector undertakings, States and Union Territories, international partners like WHO, voluntary organizations like Indian Red Cross Society, blood donor associations, professional associations and other stakeholders for creating opportunities to donate and raise public awareness on the need for safe blood donation and transfusion in the country. The Government supports various activities like organising blood donation camps, observance of special days namely World Blood Donor Day and Voluntary Blood Donation Day, pledging campaigns and motivating various youth groups etc. The Government has also made a provision of four special casual leaves per year that can be availed by Central Government employees for donating blood.

(d) & (e): As per the information available, the list of Districts without Blood Banks is at **Annexure-1.** At present, a total of 3932 licensed blood banks (blood centers) are existing as on 31st July 2022 in the Country.

It is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments to consider setting up of blood banks as per their need.

Government has adopted the National Blood Policy in the year 2002. The policy advocates for a hub and spoke approach towards blood transfusion services, wherein blood is collected and processed in the hubs, which are high volume blood banks and distributed through spokes, which are smaller blood banks and blood storage centers. The requirement of blood banks depends upon the health infrastructure of the area. However, blood storage centres can be established in remote areas to meet the emergency requirement of blood, which may be attached to blood banks.

Annexure 1

Districts without Blood Banks (As on 3rd Aug 2022)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	Names of Districts without Blood Banks
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Kamle, PakkeKessang, Shi Yomi, Lepa Rada, East Kameng, Kra Daadi, Siang, Lower Siang, Namsai, Dibang Valley, Anjaw, Tirap, Longding
2.	Assam	South Salmara Manchachar, Charaideo, Hojai, Kamrup, Bajali
3.	Bihar	Supaul
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Lahaul and Spiti
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Niwari
6.	Manipur	Senapati, Ukhrul, Chandel, Tamenglong, Bishnupur, Jiribam, Kangpokpi, Kakching, Tengnoupal, Kamjong, Noney, Pherzawl
7.	Meghalaya	South-West Khasi Hills, East Jaintia Hills, South West Garo Hills, North Garo Hills, South Garo Hills
8.	Nagaland	Peren, Kiphire, Longleng, Mon, Wokha, Phek, Tuensang, Zunheboto, Noklak