

Radiologists (radio-diagnosis) and both the posts are filled up. The Trauma Centre has other 33 posts of technicians (Radio-diagnosis) out of which 12 are filled up, and 7 more Technicians (Radio-diagnosis) including Technical Officer (Radio-diagnosis) have been posted. The process to fill up remaining 14 posts and creation of 2 more posts of Technician (Radio-diagnosis) is on.

#### **Stem cell therapy**

2656. DR. K. MALAISAMY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that stem cells are a miracle to cure and an extraordinary resource to fight against cardio vascular diseases, spinal injuries, corneal damage and regeneration of tissues;
- (b) if so, what is the stage of Indian stem cells research and therapy;
- (c) how many hospitals in India are treating patients using stem cells; and
- (d) whether there is any move to popularize this line of treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN) : (a) to (d) Stem cell research is a new emerging and promising area of biomedical sciences. However, as on date there is no approved indication for stem cell therapy as a part of routine medical practice. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Bio Technology (DBT) have taken proactive role in funding different basic research projects and internationally. Central Govt. does not maintain information of Hospitals in India treating patients using stem cells.

#### **Medical ventilator facilities in hospitals**

2657. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of medical colleges in India which have medical ventilator facilities;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating to make it mandatory for all medical colleges and city hospitals to have medical ventilators for extremely critical trauma cases;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?