

Negligence in sterilization operations

3453. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the recent deaths of 12 women after a sterilization operation (laproscopic tubectomy) was the result of negligence in following standard operating procedures; and

(b) whether Government considers doing away with the 'camp method' of sterilization in the light of the incident?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) No. The Government of Chhattisgarh has set up a judicial commission of enquiry to look into the matter and submit the report in a time bound manner.

(b) The Government intends to promote Fixed Day Approach.

Popularisation of second eye technique

†3454. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will take any steps/make any efforts to give sight back to the blind people of the country with the help of second eye technique;

(b) whether the second eye technique has met the expectations of the blind people/ has restored the sight to several people;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is popularizing it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) This Ministry is not aware of any technique called "Second Eye Technique" for rehabilitation of the blind patients.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

New cases of HIV infection

3455. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 87 per cent of HIV+people are not even aware that they are suffering from the infection and may be unknowingly spreading the virus;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether out of 22 million people tested in 2013-14, 2,40, 234 people were found HIV positive;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the low level of awareness among HIV positive population shows that early diagnosis is crucial; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No. As per HIV Estimations 2012, 21 lakh people are estimated to be living with HIV (PLHIV). As on October 2014, a total of 15,27,698 HIV infected persons, accounting for 73% of estimated number of PLHIV, are in active care at Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) Centres across the country and hence, know their HIV status.

(b) Yes. In the year 2013-14, a total of 22,782,728 people have been tested for HIV and out of these, 2,40,234 were found positive for HIV infection.

(c) and (d) Yes. Early diagnosis for HIV is crucial for better response to treatment and also for limiting further spread of infection. In this regard, various IEC activities and campaigns are conducted under National AIDS Control Programme to make people aware about HIV infection, enhance risk perception and emphasise importance of early testing to know their HIV status at ICTCs.

Infected blood in blood banks

3456. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of cases where infected blood had been donated in the blood banks of the country, which in turn has infected the patients who had used such infected blood;

(b) whether there is no system in vogue that ensures that infection-free blood is accepted at such blood banks; and

(c) if so, the action plan to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes.

(b) At the time of blood donation, detailed testing is not possible. But before any blood unit is qualified for transfusion, it passes through a number of tests to ensure that