

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. – 288
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2023

INCREASE IN HIV CASES DUE TO CONTAMINATED BLOOD TRANSFUSION

288. SMT. FAUZIA KHAN

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

- a. Whether the government is aware of the increase in HIV and hepatitis infections due to contaminated blood transfusions in Maharashtra;
- b. If so, what immediate measures are being taken to introduce Nucleic Acid Testing(NAT), a test for checking donated blood to prevent the spread of infections during transfusions, in government hospitals to prevent such infections;
- c. If not, the reasons therefore for neglect;
- d. The details of contamination-related cases nationally, state/union-territory- wise in the last decade;
- e. Steps to ensure affordable and widespread availability of NAT-tested blood to protect patients in Maharashtra and other regions facing similar risks?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)

- (a): No such data has been reported by the State of Maharashtra.
- (b) Same as (a) above.
- (c) Same as (a) above.
- (d) No such data is available centrally on e - RaktKosh web portal.
- (e) NAT Testing are largely available in the institutes of National Importance (INIs) like AIIMS New Delhi, PGI Chandigarh etc.

Some of the States's premier institutes like CMC Vellore, SGPGI Lucknow, KGMC Lucknow etc. also have NAT testing facility.

Government of India is also working on a concept proposal on Capital Blood Centre in each State which is envisaged to have NAT testing facility.

Government of India is planning to expand the National EQA Programme to all States and Union Territories (UT) in a phase wise manner and NAT testing facility will also be available in these EQAS centres.
