

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES MAHARASHTRA

1. Introduction/AIMS/Objectives

The State Blood Transfusion Council has been established in Maharashtra as an autonomous body as per the directive dated 4th January 1996 of the Supreme Court of India to all state governments. The primary objective of the Council is to provide adequate and safe blood and its components at reasonable rates in the State.

Blood Banks - the present situation

At the present there are 250 Blood Banks in the State, which are licensed and registered. Collection of blood, its testing and its distribution is done through these Blood Banks. Of the 285 Blood banks, 31 are termed as Major Blood Banks and another 41 Blood Banks are termed as District-level Blood banks. This terminology of Blood Banks has been done on the basis of their total blood collection per annum.

Given below is the split up of Blood banks on the basis of their ownership:

State Government Blood Banks	:	72
Red Cross Society Blood Banks	:	10
Trust Blood banks	:	123
Private Blood banks	:	45
		250

2. Existing manpower and structure:

The responsibility and authority for the functioning of the State Blood Council is vested with the Principal Secretary, Medical Education & Drugs Dept, Mantralaya, Mumbai and the Director General, Directorate of Health Services, Mumbai.

The Assistant Director is the chief executive officer responsible for the day to day functioning of the Council, and has the following personnel reporting to him:

- Lower division Clerk - 2
- Statistical Assitant - 1
- Account Assistant - 1
- Peon -1
- Daftary – 1

Apart from the above the Council has appointed a Telephone Operator to ensure proper coordination and networking with the Blood Banks and with the general public on a daily basis.

Of the staff mentioned above which is provided to the Assistant Director, all positions have been filled on a contract-basis except for that of the Lower Division Clerk, who is a permanent employee.

3 Objectives of the Council, Achievements of Last 4 years/ Comparative Statistics.

The programmes undertaken by the Council during the past 4 years are as follows:

Year wise Blood Collection (Jan-Dec), Blood Transfusion Services, Maharashtra

Figures in Lakhs Units

Year	Total Collection	Voluntary	Replacement	Vol %	HIV	HIV%
1999	5.85	2.88	2.97	49.23	7956	1.36
2000	6.66	3.61	3.05	54.20	7984	1.20
2001	7.01	4.57	2.44	65.00	7968	1.14
2002	7.44	4.98	2.46	67.00	7104	0.95
2003	7.76	5.55	2.22	71.45	6028	0.78
2004	8.26	6.09	2.17	73.71	6202	0.75
2005 (up to Oct)	7.21	5.39	1.82	74.72	4703	0.65

4. Various programmes and Plan of the Council, Expenditure incurred on Council's Past Programmes, Financial Proposals for the Current Year.

1. Modernization of Blood banks: 71 Blood Banks in the State have been strengthen and modernized under the programmes undertaken by the National AIDS Control Organisation. Financial Grants are provided for purchase of consumables and equipments. The Central Government also provides free kits for testing for HIV.

2. Component Separation Centres: Blood is Precious. With the objective of efficient utilization of every unit of blood collected in the state, the council has established 8 Blood component separation Centres. These Centres have been established at those blood banks who have an annual collection of more than 5000 blood units.

3. Blood Storage Centres in Villages: Today most Blood banks are functional in Mumbai, Nagpur, and Pune and at the district level. This forces patients from villages to turn towards the cities for medical services. Also due to non-availability of blood, specialist doctors are not willing to establish hospitals in villages. As a result, villagers are deprived of very vital health service. Keeping this in mind, the Council has taken a decision to establish Blood Storage Centers at 123 Primary Health Care Centers in villages.

4. Blood Donor Questionnaire: With a view to ensuring supply of safe blood it is important to gather information on the health of the donor. For the purpose of selecting healthy and safe donors, appropriate Questionnaire has been designed and sent to all Blood banks.

5. Uniform Voluntary Blood Donor Card: As per Government Resolution No. RRS/2001/827/ the Council has given a directive to all Blood Banks to implement the system of uniform Voluntary Blood Donor Card. As per this directive, a blood donor who is given this uniform Voluntary Blood Donor card is entitled to one unit of blood free of charge from any Blood bank for the use of his friends/ relatives in times of their need.

6. Felicitation of Centurion Donors: On 7th April 2000, in observance of World Health Day, a Felicitation Programme was organized to honor Blood donors who have donated blood more than 100 times. These Donors were presented with a silver Medal and a citation Certificate at the hands of Shri. Vilasrao Deshmukh, the Honorable Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

7. Rally for creating awareness about Blood Donation.: rallies for creating awareness about Voluntary Blood donation were organized on 1st October 2002 and 1st October

2003, which were flagged off by Hon. Shri. Digvijay Khanvilkar, Health Minister and Hon. Shri Eknathrao Gaikwad, Minister of State for Health.

- 8 Provision of free blood to thalassaemics/haemophiliacs From 5th January 2000 all government non government and Corporation Blood banks have been directed to provide free blood to all children suffering from thalassaemia and hemophilia. Till date 1797 Thalassaemic children and 939 hemophilia patients have been issued identity cards for the purpose of availing free blood.
- 9 **Free Blood to patients of Sickle Cell Anemia:** From 5th December 2009 all government non government and Corporation Blood banks have been directed to provide free blood for the benefit of patients suffering from Sickle Cell anemia amongst the Adivase and backward communities of the state. Also, a centre for Research and Treatment of genetic Blood disorders has been established at Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur.
- 10 **Birthday 2Blood Donor Scheme - 2003:** A campaign for Birthday Blood donation was initiated in the state from 12st February 2003. As per the campaign, having sent Birthday Blood Donors Cards to Government, Non-government and Municipal Blood banks, those donors who celebrate their birthdays by donating blood at the Blood banks will be felicitated by presentation of certificates and mementos. The objective of this campaign is to retain voluntary blood donors and to recognize the noble act of such donors.
- 11 **Mega Blood Donation Drive:** Mumbai city faces an acute shortage of blood during the months of May and June. Keeping this aspect in mind, The Limbdi Ajramar Sampraday was Requested to organize a mega blood donation Drive on 1st June 2003, under the guidance and coordination of the state blood Transfusion Council. During this drive 10962 units of blood were collected with the support of 57 Blood banks. This Drive has been recognised as the highest collection of blood units in the world and has entered the Guinness Book of world records. Similarly, A mega blood donation Drive was organized at Nasik on 6490 units of blood were collected in 10 hours with the support of 35 Blood banks. On the 30th May 2004, 14883 units of blood were collected on one single day at 26 different locations during a mega Blood donation Drive. On 4th June 2005 a mega blood Donation Drive was organized by the State reserve Police Force under the guidance and coordination of the State Blood Transfusion Council, where a total of 1385 units of blood were collected.
- 12 **Felicitatation of Centurion Donors and camp Organisers:** A felicitation programme was organized at the Birla matoshree sabagriha on 19th January 2004 to honour 26 Centurion Donors, 35 Camp Organiser who have contributed more than 1000 units in a year, and 15 Medical Officers & Social Workers. The felicittees received Citation certificates and Trophies at the hands of Shri Vijaysinh Mohite Patil, Hon. Dy. Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Shri Digvijay Khanvilkar, Hon. Health Minister, Maharashtra.
- 13 **Doctor's Day:** 1st July is observed as Doctors Day every year. In observance of this day, Blood Donation Drives were organized on 3rd June 2005 at 16 different locations in Mumbai; with a view to set right the misconceptions and apprehensions about Blood Donation. A total of 1021 doctors donated blood and set a new ideal before society,

2) Strengthening and modernization of J. J. Hospital Blood bank

The State Blood Transfusion Council has taken a decision to strengthen and modernize the J. J. Hospital Blood bank and establish it as a metropolitan blood bank with the objective of ensuring availability safe blood to those in need in the city of Mumbai. Every effort is being made to establish this Metropolitan Blood Bank as a Model Blood bank.

Important objectives of the metropolitan blood bank.

- > 100 % voluntary blood donation,
- > It is possible to ensure collection of 50000 units of blood units annually. And with component separation of all these units, 50000 units of RBCs and 50000 units of Plasma will be available for the benefit of patients in need of blood.
- > Facility of Mobile Blood Donation Van, Bar-Coded Blood Bags, safe Blood Supply.
- > Facility of Blood Donor Room, Component Separation laboratory. Virus Testing laboratory, blood Group Detection & Cross Matching Centre.

The Central Government has advised all State Governments to adopt the programmes conducted by the Maharashtra State Blood Transfusion Council. This is a matter of pride for the Government of Maharashtra

3) Important information in next year (New Project)

- 1) Blood Crisis Management Plan
- 2) 100% Voll. Blood Donation scheme.
- 3) Blood Banks Officers Training Institute.
- 4) Establishment of Blood Component Separation Unit at District level
- 5) Blood Storage Facility at Taluka level.
- 6) Plasma Fractionation scheme.