

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5049
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST MARCH, 2023**

NATIONAL ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANT ORGANISATION (NOTTO)

**5049. SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:
SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRIMATI MANJULATA MANDAL:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has organized National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization Scientific dialogue 2023 recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of participants who have participated in the dialogue and the issues discussed thereof;
- (c) the challenges faced by the Government in achieving more than 15,000 transplants in a year;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Government despite having 640 medical hospitals and colleges, transplant remains a specialized service limited to some hospitals only and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expand the number of institutions where surgeries and transplants could take place across the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) The Government of India has organized National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization Scientific dialogue 2023 on 19.02.2023 at New Delhi. A total of 519 participants took part in the dialogue.

The following issues were discussed in the event:

- Challenges and way forward for Kidney Transplant/Liver transplant/Lung transplant/Heart Transplant/Hand Transplant/Skin bank/Eye bank.
- Deceased donation programme in India.
- Approaching Emergency, Pediatric and Burn patients in the Emergency department for organ donation.
- Implementing triage in Emergency department.

(c) to (f) Health is a state subject. It is for the respective State/UT to develop transplant facilities in medical hospitals and colleges. However, the Government of India is running National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) to promote organ donation and transplantation across the country. The three-tier structure set up under NOTP to provide for an efficient and organized system of organ procurement and distribution in the country includes an apex level National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) at New Delhi, five Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (ROTTOS) at Chandigarh, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Guwahati and State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (SOTTOs) in twenty States. Under NOTP, financial assistance is provided to the States/Institutions so as to expand the number of institutions where surgeries and transplants could take place.

The major challenge faced by the Government of India in respect of organ donation/transplantation is the lack of awareness on the subject in the country. The Government is taking several steps to increase awareness on organ donation in the country. These include dissemination of information by NOTTO, ROTTOS and SOTTOs, the three tiered structure set up under NOTP; a website www.notto.gov.in; a 24x7 call centre with a toll free helpline number (1800114770) to provide information, tele-counseling and to help in coordination for organ donation; a number of activities are organized across the country for generating awareness, such as celebration of Indian Organ Donation Day annually, seminars, workshops, debates, sports events, walkathons, participation in marathons, nukkad natak, awareness stall in India International Trade Fair,2022, NOTTO Scientific Dialogue,2023 etc; display boards on organ donation are put up outside ICUs and other strategic locations in the transplant/retrieval hospitals; advertisement in print media; dissemination of audio and audio-visual messages through social media (Facebook, Twitter, You Tube Channel); electronic media etc.; regular programs are conducted with school children like visit to NOTTO campaign for giving them the knowledge about organ donation and conducting competitions like poster making etc. The government has decided to do away with the domicile requirement of the state for registration of patients requiring organ transplantation from deceased donor. Also, as per the new government guidelines, the upper age limit of 65 years for eligibility for registration to receive deceased donor organ has been removed. Now, a person of any age can register for receiving deceased donor organ.
