

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3556

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2012

HUMAN ORGANS

Alagiri Shri S. ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of human organs in hospitals for treatment;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme to provide financial assistance to State Government for setting up human organ banks;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in co-ordination with State Governments to encourage people to donate human organs of brain dead persons for needy patients;
- (d) the number of cases of illegal trafficking of human organs registered along with action taken against those found guilty during the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to stop the illegal trafficking of human organs;
- (f) whether the Government have also any proposal to set up National Organ Procurement and Distribution Organisation (NOPDO) and establish new facilities for kidney and liver transplantation; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said organisations are likely to be set up?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) Yes.

(b) Health being a state subject, it is for the States to consider setting up of human organ banks as per their requirement. However, work for setting up a National Bio-Material Centre (National Tissue Bank) for tissue banking has already been initiated at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi. No proposal is under consideration for setting up of human organ-banks in the States.

(c) To create awareness for organ and tissue donation among the stakeholders and general public, Indian Organ Donation Day is celebrated in the month of November, every year since the year 2010. Recently, the third Indian Organ Donation Day was organized on 30th November 2012 at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi. A stall was set up during the India International Trade fair at New Delhi in 2012 to spread the message of Deceased Organ Donation among the public.

Regional `Organ Donation Awareness workshops` were organized in coordination with State Governments during 2011-2012 in the cities of Bangalore, Hyderabad, Puducherry, Chennai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Pune, Chandigarh, & Trivandrum for increasing the awareness among public for organ and tissue donation.

(d) Health being a State subject, such information is not maintained centrally. However, some incidents of illegal transplant of human organs have come to the notice. Information supplied by various states during the last few years is at Annexure.

(e) The penal provisions and punishments have been made more stringent in the Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Act, 2011.

(f) & (g) Work has already started for setting a National Human Organs and Tissues Removal and Storage Network at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi which will have an online system with a dedicated website to network for procurement of organs from deceased donors and their allocation and distribution in a transparent manner. The National Informatics Centre (NIC) has already been assigned the task of developing the aforesaid online system.