

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:159
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013
ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Central Coordinating agency on organ transplantation in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be set up and start functioning;
- (c) the total funds allocated/utilized for encouraging organ donation in the country during each of the last three years and the current year so far; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to simplify the procedure of organ donation and launch awareness campaigns/programmes about organ donation and transplantation in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a)&(b): Yes, Government has already decided to set up the National Organs & Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, as a central coordination agency for organ transplantation in the country with the following mandate;

Lay down policy guidelines and protocols in relation to Organ and Tissue donation and transplantation.

Network with similar regional and state level organizations.

Compile and publish all registry data from States and regions.

Creating awareness, promotion of organ donation and transplantation.

Co-ordination from retrieval of organs and tissues to transplantation of the same (when organ is allocated outside a region).

Dissemination of information to organ and tissue transplant organizations, hospitals, individuals and other stakeholders.

Monitoring of transplantation activities in various regions and States, maintaining data-bank in this regard.

Assist in data management for organ transplant surveillance and Organ Donor registry.

Consultancy support on the legal and non-legal aspects of donation and transplantation

Coordinate and Organize training for various personnel associated with this work.

Government has initiated steps to develop the requisite infrastructure to make the NOTTO functional. It has also started taking steps to make the web-site of the organization fully operational (notto.nic.in).

(c)

Year Activities

2010 - 6m World and First Indian Organ Donation Day was organized in November 2010. An amount of Rs. 42 Lakh was utilized

2011- 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 and Tiruvanthapuram for increasing the awareness among public for organ and tissue donation.

2nd Indian Organ Donation Day was organized at AIMS, New Delhi
An amount of Rs. 6.84 Lakh was utilized

2012- The third Indian Organ Donation Day was
13 organized in November 2012 at Safdarjung
Hospital New Delhi. A stall was set up during the India
International Trade fair at New Delhi in November 2012 to spread the
message of deceased Organ Donation among the public. An amount of
Rs. 1.27 Lakh was utilized
2013- Rs. 2.43 lakh has been spent for spreading
2014 awareness so far.

(d) Government of India enacted the Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Act 2011. Some of the important amendments under this Act to simplify the procedure of organ donation are:-

- > Provision of `Retrieval Centres` for retrieval of organs from cadavers/deceased donors and their registration under the amended Act.
- > Definition of `near-relative` expanded to include Grandparents and Grand Children.
- > Brain death certification simplified by associating more experts in the certification committee.
- > `Mandatory` inquiry and informing option to donate in case of unfortunate event of death of Patient in ICU for the purpose of organ donation.
- > Mandatory `Transplant Coordinator` for coordinating all matters relating to removal or transplantation of human organs.
- > National Human Organs and Tissues Removal and Storage Network at one or more places along with Regional network
- > National Registry of Donors and Recipients
- > Removal of cornea has been permitted by a trained technician to facilitate eye donation.

To create awareness for organ donation, Indian Organ Donation Day is celebrated in the month of November every year since the year 2010. Awareness activities are carried out through the events like India International Trade fair to spread the message of Deceased Organ Donation among the public.

Organ Retrieval Banking Organization at AIIMS, New Delhi has been registering the persons who pledge to donate their organs after death.