

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2063  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**

**ORGAN DONATION POLICY**

**2063. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated organ donation/transplantation policy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the existing rules/guidelines for organ transplantation in the country along with the rules/guidelines that exist in other developed countries in this regard;
- (c) whether India has lower organ donation rate compared to other major countries and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether awareness about brain death and retrieval of organs from such patients is very low in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken/ being taken by the Government to educate the people in this regard?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): The Government of India has notified Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 (as amended in 2011) and made Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014 thereunder for regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of human organs and tissues for therapeutic purposes. Further, the following guidelines/regulations have been issued in recent past for facilitating organ donation and transplantation in the country

- (i) Highlights of National Organ and Tissue Transplant Programme and Operational Guidelines for its implementation.
- (ii) Allocation Criteria for Deceased Donor Kidney, Heart, Liver, Lung, Heart-Lung and Cornea Transplant (Guidelines) has been formulated in 2016.
- (iii) Draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/protocols for management of brain stem dead donors and retrieval of different Organs.

These are available in public domain on the website of National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) i.e [www.notto.gov.in](http://www.notto.gov.in).

The Data regarding Rules/guidelines for organ transplantation in other countries is not maintained centrally. However the information may be available on respective websites.

(c): Yes. In India, the demand for organs and tissues for transplantation is far more than availability of organs. The deceased organ donation rate is approximately 0.61 per million population as in the year 2016. As per Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation, the organ donation rate in Spain, US, UK, and Australia in the year 2016 were as under:

Spain- 43.8

USA – 30.76

UK- 21.5

Australia- 20.7

(d) & (e): The Government of India has taken a series of measures to promote cadaver organ donation. The Government is implementing the National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) to promote organ donation across the country. The website of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), viz. [www.notto.nic.in](http://www.notto.nic.in) contains information pertinent to the activities relating to organ donation and a 24x7 call centre with a toll free helpline number (1800114770) is operational. Financial assistance is admissible for hiring of transplant coordinators in Hospitals and Trauma Centres and for imparting training to all those associated with transplant activities including doctors and transplant coordinators. Activities such as celebration of Indian organ donation day every year, seminars, workshops, debates, sports events, walkathons, display boards outside ICUs and other strategic locations at the transplant/retrieval hospitals, nukkad natak, etc. are also organized at different places in the country to disseminate information and increase awareness. Audio-visual messages are also telecast on Doordarshan and other Television channels.