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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3152 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH, 2023

ORGAN DONATION

3152. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

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

- (a) the total number of organ donations that happened in the year 2022-23;
- (b) the number of registered organ donors in the country;
- (c) the number of illegal organ donations in 2022-23;
- (d) the number of patients waiting for organ replacement in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to expedite the process of organ donation/replacement in the country?

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

- (a) As per the data available with National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), a total of 15,561 organ transplants took place in the country in the calendar year 2022.
- (b) As on 20.03.2023, there are total 4,49,760 organ donors registered in the country as per NOTTO.
- (c) Few instances of human organ trade have come to the notice of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through complaints/media reports. Under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994 there is a State level Appropriate Authority to investigate any complaint of breach of any of the provisions of this Act or any of the rules and take appropriate action. Accordingly, these cases are forwarded to the concerned State Government for investigation and taking action as per the provisions of the Act. Further, the details of such cases are not maintained by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- (d) As on 20.03.2023, the number of patients waiting for organ replacement in the country is 49,745 as per NOTTO.
- Government is taking several steps to expedite the process of organ donation/replacement (e) in the country. These include dissemination of information by NOTTO, 'Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (ROTTOs)' and 'State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (SOTTOs)', the three tiered structure set up under the National Organ Transplant Program (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.
