

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 266  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2025**

**CHALLENGES OF NATIONAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT PROGRAMME**

**266 SHRI A. D. SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the National Organ Transplant Programme is facing serious challenges due to insufficient funding, shortage of trained transplant surgeons and coordinators, and procedural delays, as highlighted in Ministry's own report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which these issues have affected transplant services across the country; and
- (c) the remedial actions being taken or proposed by Government to address these challenges?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): *Health* being a State subject, it is the primary responsibility of State Government to provide required facilities and services for organ transplantation in the State. As per the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 (THOTA), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, has established a three tiered National Human Organs and Tissues Removal and Storage Network, consisting of National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (ROTO) and State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO).

NOTTO is the apex body for coordination, networking and registry of organ and tissue donation and transplantation in India. The National Organ Transplant Program (NOTP) is a Central Sector Programme of Government of India, which aims to improve access to organ transplantation for needy citizens of the country by increasing awareness on

deceased organ donation, efficient mechanism for organ procurement and their distribution for transplantation, augmentation of infrastructure in public sector, training of manpower, etc.

With consistent efforts of NOTTO, ROTTOs and SOTTOs, the total number of organ transplants performed per year in the country has increased from 4,990 in the year 2013 to 18910 in the year 2024. The total number of Deceased Donor Organ Transplants has increased from 837 in the year 2013 to 3403 in the year 2024. Organ donation rate (number of deceased donor per million) increased from 0.27 per million in the year 2013 to 0.81 per million population in the year 2024. The number of deceased organ donors has increased from 340 in the year 2013 to 1128 in the year 2024. Presently, India ranks third in the world in terms of total Organ Transplantation and first in terms of total living donor organ transplantation.

States are encouraged to identify gap and to take proactive actions to further strengthen the transplantation programme at State level. States may seek necessary assistance from the Centre through NOTP. Under NOTP, grants are provided to States depending upon the proposals received, for establishing ROTTOs and SOTTOs, augmenting infrastructure in public sector for setting up Organ Transplant/Retrieval Centers and Tissue Banks, hiring of Transplant Coordinators by Government Medical Colleges and Trauma Centers, maintenance of deceased donors, organ transport, post- transplant immune-suppressant medicines, carrying out awareness, training and capacity building activities etc.

Further, people can take benefit of Kidney Transplantation Package provided under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) under the Ayushman Bharat programme. Also, under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), financial support is provided to the patients, who are below the poverty line, for transplantation of Kidney, Liver, Heart and Lung.

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