

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2848**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH,2026**

**COMPREHENSIVE AND DEDICATED APPROACH IN TACKLING BLINDNESS AND  
VISUAL IMPAIRMENT**

**2848. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK.**

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

- (a) whether govt. has conducted any study/survey to assess prevalence of blindness or visual impairment in the County :
- (b) if so, the details of the study/survey, and the estimated number of persons with blindness or visual impairment state-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that blindness and visual impairment still pose a significant challenges in achieving universal eye health;
- (d) if so, whether the government has any comprehensive and dedicated approach for effectively tackling the situation including focus on improving eye banking and corneal transplant;and
- (e) if so,the details thereof and if not,the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment (NPCBVI), a survey by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi during 2015–2019 in 31 districts estimated the prevalence of blindness and visual impairment at 0.36% and 2.55%, respectively.

NPCBVI strengthens eye care services at all levels, supports screening of school children, refractive error management, cataract surgeries, treatment of other eye diseases and provides for spectacles to children and the elderly. It also promotes upgrading of Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centres, cornea retrieval and corneal transplantation, along with capacity building of personnel, infrastructure support and IEC activities for awareness, early detection and timely treatment.

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