

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1811  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2018**

**EYE BANK**

**1811. SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

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

- (a) the number of eye banks functioning in the country at present, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the number of eye donations received during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether as per the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) only less than 50 per cent donated eyes collected are utilized for corneal transplantation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make sure that the eyes donated are successfully utilized?

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

- (a): As per the information furnished by States/UTs, a statement showing the number of eye banks functioning in the country at present is given at **Annexure-I**.
- (b): As per the information furnished by States/UTs, a statement showing the number of eye donations received during each of the last three years and current year (2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19) is given at **Annexure-II**.
- (c)& (d): As per available reports, about 40-50 percent donated eyes are utilized for corneal transplantation in States/UTs.

Prior to corneal transplantation, the collected corneas are assessed by transplant surgeons for its suitability for optical keratoplasty. However, because of various medical reasons, like poor quality of collected corneas due to the reasons like, age of donor, pre-existing degeneration/diseases etc. not all the collected corneas are found suitable for corneal transplantation. Hence, only healthy suitable corneas are utilized for corneal transplantation to restore the vision of corneal blind.

However, donated corneas not found suitable or fit for corneal transplantation are utilized either for therapeutic keratoplasty or for training and research purposes.

(e): The following steps have been taken under the National Programme for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCB&VI) for successful utilization of donated corneas:

- I. Support to Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centres to meet the cost of identified ophthalmic equipments, consumables including preservation material & media for storage of donated corneas etc.;
- II. In-service training to Eye Surgeons in Eye Banking and Keratoplasty;
- III. Free supply of preservation and storage medium for donated corneas to Government Eye Banks;
- IV. Collection of eyes by eye Banks from willing donors after death and also from those patients who die in hospitals under “Hospital Corneal Retrieval Programme” for timely transplantation of corneas.
- V. Appointment of Eye Donation Counsellors in the identified Eye Banks to promote eye donation and timely collection of donated eyes;
- VI. Provision of dedicated phone line 1919 (BSNL & MTNL users) automatically linked with the area eye banks in metro cities and new 24x7 toll free No.1800-11-4770 for organ donation including eye donation.

## ANNEXURE-I

Number of functional Eye Banks in the Country, State/UT-wise (as on  
24.7.2018)

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of functional Eye Banks
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	14
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	5
5	Bihar	1
6	Chhattisgarh	4
7	Chandigarh	3
8	Dadra & Nagar haveli	0
9	Daman & Diu	0
10	Delhi	10
11	Goa	1
12	Gujarat	29
13	Haryana	6
14	Himachal Pradesh	2
15	Jammu & Kashmir	0
16	Jharkhand	7
17	Karnataka	30
18	Kerala	13
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	36
21	Maharashtra	74
22	Manipur	1
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	1
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	7
27	Puducherry	3
28	Punjab	18
29	Rajasthan	6
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	38
32	Telangana	2
33	Tripura	1
34	Uttar Pradesh	33
35	Uttarakhand	2
36	West Bengal	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>361</b>

## ANNEXURE-II

State/UT- wise number of cornea collection received during the last three years and current year (as on 25.7.2018)

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of Eye donations			
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	3115	3454	4142	1126
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
4	Assam	394	215	313	85
5	Bihar	34	0	71	0
6	Chhattisgarh	282	334	378	84
7	Chandigarh	950	1081	1169	173
8	Dadra & Nagar haveli	0	0	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	6	4	4	0
10	Delhi	3575	3409	3699	117
11	Goa	6	12	4	1
12	Gujarat	8436	8447	8057	1819
13	Haryana	3456	4397	1876	0
14	Himachal Pradesh	0	93	40	0
15	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	55	25
16	Jharkhand	42	12	38	4
17	Karnataka	3572	3498	5914	1030
18	Kerala	1922	1973	2012	303
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	2208	3710	2414	130
21	Maharashtra	7301	7514	7560	936
22	Manipur	59	73	0	0
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
24	Mizoram	127	102	80	36
25	Nagaland	2	0	0	0
26	Odisha	983	1346	1344	410
27	Puducherry	1330	1399	1242	306
28	Punjab	773	1257	1274	184
29	Rajasthan	1267	1522	1417	382
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu	11919	11204	12349	2426
32	Telangana	6171	7638	9953	3963
33	Tripura	0	6	4	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	827	857	2051	617
35	Uttarakhand	207	285	239	42
36	West Bengal	2940	3794	4011	275
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61904</b>	<b>67636</b>	<b>71710</b>	<b>14474</b>