

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5549  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019**

**ORGAN DONATION**

**5549. SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has passed Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 regulating the organ donations and transplants which includes donation of human organs pertaining to the brain dead persons and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any report or complaint from the citizens of India regarding the sale of human organs for monetary considerations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is having any proposal to set up National Human Organ Donation Bank to facilitate the transplantation of human organs without involvement of any middleman and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the further steps taken by the Government to popularize the scheme to create awareness among the citizens especially poor people in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Yes. The Government of India enacted the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994 and made rules thereunder for regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of human organs and tissues for therapeutic purposes.

(b) & (c): Few instances of human organ trade have come to the notice of the Ministry of Health 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 made thereunder 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, details of such cases in not maintained by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(d): There is no such proposal to set up National Human Organ Donation Bank as organs like Heart, Kidney, etc. need to be transplanted immediately after retrieval. However, the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) has a facility of National Level Tissue Bank (Biomaterial Centre) for storing tissues. A regional biomaterial centre has also been established at Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (ROTTTO), Chennai, Tamilnadu.

(e): The 'National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)', 'Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (ROTTTOs)' and 'State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (SOTTTOs)' disseminate relevant information about organ donation in the public. A 24x7 call centre with a toll free helpline number (1800114770) has been made operational. A number of activities, for generating awareness and for imparting training to all those associated with transplant activities including doctors and transplant coordinators, such as celebration of Indian Organ Donation Day, seminars, workshops, debates, sports events, walkathons, participation in marathons, nukkad Natak, etc. are organized at different places in the Country. Audio-visual messages to promote cadaver organ donation are also telecast on Doordarshan and other television channels.

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