

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3447
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2020**

EYE BANKS

**3447. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

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

- (a) the number of functional Eye Banks in the country along with number of cornea collection received during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has set any target for collection of donated eyes annually under the National Programme for Control of Blindness and Visual impairment, if so, the details thereof along with the number of donated eyes collected during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has faced any difficulties/constraints in achieving the target, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) 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, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government has created adequate infrastructure for carrying out corneal transplantation, if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

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

(a) & (b): As per the information furnished by States/UTs under the National Programme for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCB&VI), a statement showing the number of functional eye banks including eye donation centres, State/UT-wise, is given at **Annexure-I**.

The details of annual targets set for collection of donated eyes/corneas under NPCB&VI and the achievements thereof during the last three years and the current year (2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20), State/UT-wise, is given at **Annexure-II**.

(c): The constraints in achieving the targets for donated eyes/cornea collection in the country include lack of awareness, myths surrounding eye donation and inadequate eye banking facilities.

(d): As per the data reported by States/UTs under NPCB&VI, on an average 40-50 percent donated eyes/corneas are utilized for corneal transplantation annually. The donated eyes/corneas are assessed by eye surgeons prior to corneal transplantation for its suitability for optical keratoplasty. Not all the collected corneas are found suitable for corneal transplantation because of various medical reasons, like poor quality of collected corneas due to age of the donor, pre-existing degeneration/diseases etc. Donated corneas, not found suitable for corneal transplantation, are utilized either for therapeutic keratoplasty or for study, training and research purposes.

The following corrective steps have been taken under NPCB&VI to improve utilization rate of donated corneas:

1. Recurring grant to eye banks for transportation, storage and collection of donated corneas,
2. Non-recurring grant to eye banks in public sector to meet the cost of ophthalmic equipments and instruments,
3. Free supply of short term and long term cornea preservation and storage medium to Government eye banks,
4. In-service training to eye surgeons in eye banking and Keratoplasty,
5. Training to para medical ophthalmic assistants in enucleation of donated eyes/corneas.

(e): The following steps have been taken under NPCB&VI for creating adequate infrastructure for carrying out corneal transplantation:

1. Non-recurring grant to Eye Banks in public sector to meet the cost of identified ophthalmic equipments and instruments,
2. Provision of non-recurring grant to Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology and Government Medical Colleges to meet the cost of identified ophthalmic equipments for setting up of Eye Bank and Corneal transplantation Centres.

ANNEXURE-I

Statement showing number of functional Eye Banks/Eye Donation Centres in the Country, State/UT-wise (as on 11.03.2020)

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of functional Eye Banks/Eye Donation Centres
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	14
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	5
5	Bihar	4
6	Chhattisgarh	5
7	Chandigarh	3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
9	Daman & Diu	0
10	Delhi	10
11	Goa	1
12	Gujarat	30
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	40
21	Maharashtra	74
22	Manipur	1
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	1
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	3
27	Puducherry	3
28	Punjab	21
29	Rajasthan	6
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	38
32	Telangana	12
33	Tripura	1
34	Uttar Pradesh	35
35	Uttarakhand	1
36	West Bengal	14
	Total	380

Statement showing targets under NPCBVI and collection of donated eyes/corneas during the last three years and current year, State/UT wise (as on 11.03.2020)

States	Collection of donated eyes							
	Target	Achiev.	Target	Achiev.	Target	Achiev.	Target	Achiev.
Major States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20*	
Andhra Pradesh	5000	3454	5000	4143	5000	4961	5500	3947
Bihar	300	75	300	71	300	127	500	120
Chhatisgarh	300	334	300	378	300	360	500	318
Goa	30	12	30	4	30	4	100	0
Gujarat	6500	8447	6500	8057	7000	7921	9000	5760
Haryana	1500	4397	1500	1876	2000	1424	3000	1533
Himachal Pradesh	200	93	200	40	200	20	300	52
Jammu & Kashmir	200	0	200	55	200	64	300	0
Jharkhand	200	12	200	38	200	25	500	44
Karnataka	3500	3498	3500	5914	3500	5561	6000	4640
Kerala	1700	1973	1700	2012	1700	2022	2000	1791
Madhya Pradesh	1000	3710	1000	2414	2000	2315	3000	2321
Maharashtra	7000	7514	7000	7560	7000	7323	7500	5492
Odisha	700	1346	700	1344	1500	1563	2000	1106
Punjab	700	1257	700	1274	1500	1517	2000	884
Rajasthan	1200	1522	1200	1417	1200	1551	1600	1741
Tamilnadu	7000	11204	7000	12349	7000	10504	8000	9334
Telangana	3400	7638	3400	9953	4000	8058	5000	7699
Uttar Pradesh	1000	857	1000	2051	1500	2541	2500	2143
Uttarakhand	500	285	500	195	500	128	500	118
West Bengal	3000	3794	3000	4011	3000	4281	4000	3494
North Eastern States								
Arunachal Pradesh	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Assam	400	215	400	313	400	334	400	159
Manipur	100	73	100	0	100	0	100	0
Meghalaya	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Mizoram	100	102	100	80	100	105	100	64
Nagaland	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Sikkim	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Tripura	30	6	30	4	30	2	100	0
UTs		0						
A & N Nicobar	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Chandigarh	500	1081	500	1169	500	1150	500	237
D&N Haveli	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Daman & Diu	30	2	30	2	30	0	100	0
Delhi	3500	3409	3500	3699	3500	4313	4000	2012
Lakshdeep	30	0	30	0	30	0	100	0
Puducherry	200	1399	200	1242	500	1175	200	963
Grand Total	50000	67709	50000	71665	55000	69349	70000	55972

*Note:-

1. Figures of achievement in the year 2019-20 is upto 11.03.2020