

**Shortage of organs for transplantations**

263. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing huge shortage of organs for transplantation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many deaths took place due to non-availability of organs on time;

(c) whether Government is considering to set up organ banks in most of the hospitals in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. There is a gap between the number of patients who need transplants and the number of organs that are available. The information regarding exact number of deaths that took place due to non-availability of organs is not maintained centrally, as Health is a State Subject.

(c) and (d) It is for the States to set up Organ Banks, in their respective States. Usually, it is not required to store organs in India for long duration because of the need of these organs for transplantation. However, Organ Retrieval Banking Organization (ORBO) is functional at AIIMS, New Delhi for coordinating the activities in this regard. Under National Organ Transplant Programme, setting up of a National Biomaterial Centre at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi has already been initiated for tissue banking.

**Lack of qualified medical practitioners in rural areas**

264. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the National Rural Health Mission, there is a reported lack of qualified medical practitioners and the reasons therefor;