

(c) The Ministry of Tourism provides financial support under the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme to approved Medical Tourism Service Providers subject to adherence to scheme guidelines and availability of funds. Further, the Department of Commerce also offers incentives to the hospitals providing medical treatment to foreigners.

Appointment of Organ Donation Counsellors in PHCs

112. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to appoint Organ Donation Counsellors in all the Primary Health Centres (PHCs) across the country to encourage and motivate people to come forward for organ donation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) No.

(b) Health is a State subject and therefore, the primary responsibility to promote organ donation including cadaver donation is that of the State Governments. Notwithstanding this, the Government of India has enacted the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 which has been further amended in 2011 to promote cadaver organ retrieval/donation and making organs available to the persons in need of such organs. Further, a National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) has also been approved to promote organ donation from deceased donors and a website www.notto.nic.in has been made operational to provide information related to organ donation and organ pledging. However, at present, there is no such provision in NOTP to appoint Organ Donation Counsellors in Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

National centres for the elderly

113. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open national centres for the elderly at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with status of the project;

(c) the details of treatment/medical help that is proposed to be provided at such centres; and

(d) whether it would be free of any charges, if so, the details thereof?