## डॉ. अनिल कुमार Dr. ANIL KUMAR

M.B.B.S., MD निदेशक, नोटो/Director, NOTTO



## भारत सरकार स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय स्वास्थ्य सेवा महानिदेशालय

Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Directorate General of Health Services

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Greetings from NOTTO!** 

As you are aware, Government of India is working with the aim of "One Nation, One Policy" in organ donation and transplantation in consultation with the states.

Towards this, following guidelines were communicated to states for implementation:

- 1) To do away with the domicile requirement of the State (as has been the practice in few states) for registration of patients requiring organ transplantation from deceased donors. Hence, no State/UT shall ask for domicile for registering the patients for deceased donor organ.
- 2) Patients of any age, requiring Deceased Donor Organ for Transplant (DDOT), without any upper age limit, will be permitted to register all over the Country in the waiting list registry.
- 3) No fee shall be charged by the States/UTs for registration of patients for deceased donor organ as there is no such provision under Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994. Wherever fees are being charged for registration, such practices should be stopped immediately.

The detailed D.O. letter from the then Secretary (Health) issued in this regard is enclosed. It was requested to share an action taken report with the Ministry which is yet to be received.

In view of the above, it is once again requested to take necessary steps so as to ensure implementation of the above-mentioned guidelines and share an action taken report with this office at the earliest.

This National endeavor will bring uniformity in the field of organ donation and transplantation all over the country and will go a long way in furthering the noble cause of organ donation.

with regards

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Anil Kumar)

## To:-

- 1. ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Health & Family Welfare), All States/UTs
- 2. Appropriate Authority under THOTA 1994, All States/ UTs
- 3. Director/ In-charge, All ROTTOs/ SOTTOs

## Copy for Information to:-

- 1. PSO to Secretary (HFW), MoHFW, Government of India
- 2. PSO to DGHS, Government of India
- 3. PPS to JS (ERS), MoHFW, Govt. of India



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राजेश भूषण, आईएएस संचिव RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS SECRETARY H.12011/03/2023-MS

भारत सरकार स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय Government of India



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कत्याण मंत्रालय Government of India Department of Health and Family Welfare Ministry of Health and Family Welfare D.O. No. H.12011/03/2023-MS 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

Dear Colleague,

As you may be aware, Central Government has been given a mandate under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994 for establishing National Human Organs & Tissues Removal and Storage Network and to maintain a National registry of the donors and recipients of human organs and tissues. In this regard, the Government of India is implementing the National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) to promote organ donation and transplantation across the country. A three tier structure has been set up under the NOTP for an efficient and organized system of organ procurement and distribution in the Country, which consists of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) at New Delhi at the apex level, five Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (ROTTOs) at Chandigarh, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Guwahati and State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organizations (SOTTOs) at the State level.

- The Government of India is working with the aim of "One Nation, One Policy" for Organ Donation and Transplantation in consultation with States. In this context, a meeting was held with all States under the Chairmanship of Director General of Health Services (DGHS) on 9th January, 2023 wherein it was noted that the THOTA and Rules thereunder, provides that a patient requiring Deceased Donor Organ for Transplant (DDOT) can seek organ transplant from any registered transplant hospital in the Country and his/her request would thereafter be registered by the transplant hospital with the National Registry for inclusion in the waiting list. A unique ID will be provided by NOTTO to each of these registered patients. The patient would be counted as the patient of the State where the concerned transplant hospital is located. The patient also has the option to change the transplant hospital within or outside the State after initial registration and the unique ID for determining the priority in the waiting list would remain the same. Therefore, now it has been decided to do away with the domicile requirement of the State (as has been the practice in few States) for registration of patients requiring organ transplantation from deceased donor. Hence, no State/UT shall ask for domicile for registering the patients for deceased donor organ transplantation.
- 3. As per the previous guideline of National Organ and Tissue Transplantation (NOTTO), only persons below the age of 65 years were eligible for registration to receive deceased donor organ. Now, it has been decided that patients of any age, requiring Deceased Donor Organ for Transplant (DDOT), without any upper age limit, will be permitted to register all over the Country in the waiting list registry.
- 4. Further, it is emphasised that no fee should be charged by the States/UTs for registration of patients for deceased donor organ as there is no such provision under THOTA

- 1994. Wherever fees are being charged for registration, such practices should be stopped immediately.
- 5. In view of the above, you are requested to take necessary steps so as to ensure implementation of above guidelines and share an action taken report with this Ministry within 15 days.
- 6. I shall be grateful if you kindly look into the matter personally and support this National endeavor to bring in uniformity in the field of organ donation and transplantation all over the country. This will go a long way in furthering the noble cause of organ donation.

Yours sincerely,

(Rajesh Bhushan)

ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Health and Family Welfare), all States/UTs