

**Tamil Nadu Observes State Organ Donation Day****Sunil Shroff, Sujatha Suriyamoorthi**

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On September 23, 2024, at Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai, the Tamil Nadu State Organ Donation Day was observed. State Organ Donation Day is celebrated on this day every year in honour of Hitendran, whose organs were donated in 2008. The families of deceased donors as well as the transplant teams from both public and private hospitals were acknowledged by Ma. Subramanian, Tamil Nadu's Minister for Health and Family Welfare. During the event, the Annual Book of TRANSTAN, detailing the state's yearly performance in deceased donations and transplants was released.

"Between September 2023 and August 2024, a total of 1393 organs and tissues have been retrieved from 258 brain-dead donors. Additionally, 14,300 people have registered online for organ donation. The state government's efforts to honour deceased donors, combined with focused awareness initiatives, have significantly boosted public understanding of organ donation.", stated Health Minister Ma. Subramanian.

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Several government medical college hospitals, such as those in Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Tirupur, Theni, and Namakkal, have initiated deceased donation programs. Among public hospitals, the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai reported the highest number of deceased donations, with 35 donations. This increase in donations at government hospitals has also led to a rise in transplants within these institutions. During his address at the event, Dr. N Gopalakrishnan, Member Secretary of TRANSTAN, emphasized that TRANSTAN is currently focusing on gathering comprehensive data on transplant outcomes and patient survival rates.

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