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HEW STEP



GOD GIVES US THINGS TO SHARE
GOD DOESN'T GIVE US THINGS TO HOLD
DONATE ORGANS

CHIEF MANAGING EDITOR IPP RTN LAL GOEL PUBLISHED ON BEHALF OF INSPIRE PRESIDENT RTN PHF RITIKA GUPTA BY INSPIRE SECRETARY RTN RUBY AGARWAL FOR ROTARY CLUB OF ORGAN DONATION INTERNATIONAL.

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FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF MANAGING EDITOR



Dear Fellow Rotarians and Esteemed Members,

This week was once again very eventful in advancing our organ donation mission.

On August 30th, 2025, the 9th Eye, Skin & Organ Donation Seminar was held at Rotary Service Centre, Juhu, Mumbai, where I expressed my strong views on the urgent need for Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres.

On August 31st, 2025, a brainstorming session on the role of Rotary in Organ Donation took place at Hotel Radisson, Mumbai, with our District Secretary 3141 for Rotary year 2026-27 & Inspire Secretary Rtn Ruby Agarwal.

On September 3rd, 2025, I along with Rtn Rajesh Mittal, Country Coordinator of the Rotary Action Group for Blood & Organ Donation, had an intensive strategic discussion on organ donation at JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi.

This week's highlight is an article written by me on the game-changing potential of Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres in revolutionising organ donation logistics.

Our Vice-President Rtn Hemalatha Bhandari has written another beautiful poem for your enjoyment.

In our popular "Healthy Food-Healthy Organs" segment, Inspire President Rtn PHF Ritika Gupta shares her recipe for Healthy Pumpkin Soup.

Our "Interesting Facts About Our Members" spotlight features our esteemed Club Young Leaders Contact.

I CAN THINK OF NOTHING BETTER THAN BEING ABLE TO GIVE A HEALTHY ORGAN TO IMPROVE THE LIFE OF ANOTHER PERSON.

Yours in Rotary,

IPP Rtn Lal Goel

Chief Managing Editor Founder & Charter President

MOBILE ORGAN RETRIEVAL CENTRES ARE THE NEED OF THE HOUR SAYS ROTARIAN LAL GOEL













Mumbai, August 30, 2025— The 9th Eye, Skin & Organ Donation Seminar was held at the Rotary Service Centre in Juhu, Mumbai.

Distinguished Speakers Address Critical Healthcare Gap

The seminar welcomed District Governor Rtn Dr Manish Motwani (RID 3141) as Chief Guest, who emphasised the crucial role Rotarians must play in advancing organ donation initiatives across communities.

Dr Bharat Shah, Founder and Permanent Member of the Zonal Transplant Coordination Centre (ZTCC) and Director of Nephrology at Gleneagles Hospital Mumbai, served as the Guest of Honour, providing comprehensive insights into organ donation processes and their life-saving impact.

Call for Infrastructure Development

Rotarian Lal Goel, Zonal District Chair of Rotary District 3141 and Advisor to the Organ & Blood Donation Committee of Rotary District 3110, made a compelling case for mobile organ retrieval centres. He highlighted that 85% of India's revenue districts currently lack organ transplant or retrieval facilities, representing a massive gap in healthcare infrastructure.

"We must establish mobile organ retrieval centres to reach underserved areas and save countless lives," Rotarian Goel urged, calling on both government and Rotary organisations to address this critical need.

Medical Experts Highlight Donation Opportunities

Dr Quresh Maskati, a renowned ophthalmologist and eye surgeon, detailed the critical importance of cornea donation, explaining how this gift of sight can transform lives for those living in darkness.

Rtn Dr Sunil Keswani, Medical Director and Head of Plastic Surgery at National Burns Centre, Navi Mumbai, shared valuable information about skin banks and Rotary's pioneering role in establishing India's first state-of-the-art skin bank in Mumbai. He noted that skin can be successfully retrieved up to 10-12 hours after death, expanding donation possibilities.

Community Leadership and Commitment

Rtn Jayant Sanghvi, President of the Rotary Club of Bombay West, welcomed attendees and reinforced the importance of community engagement in organ donation awareness.

PP Rtn Harmindar Singh, Managing Trustee of Life Beyond Life Foundation and Avenue Chair of Rotary District 3141, challenged all Rotary members to personally commit to organ and tissue donation while highlighting his foundation's extensive work in donation awareness campaigns.

Strong Community Participation

The seminar drew significant participation from Rotary leadership, including PP Rtn Ashok Deorah (Trustee), Rtn Prashant Patel (Settler, Life Beyond Life Foundation), Rtn Ruby Agarwal (Inspire Secretary, Rotary Club of Organ Donation International), and numerous Rotarians committed to this humanitarian cause.

Impact and Next Steps

The event successfully raised awareness about the critical importance of eye, skin, and organ donation while encouraging individuals to pledge their support for this life-saving initiative. The discussions reinforced the urgent need for expanded infrastructure and community engagement to bridge the gap between organ availability and patient need across India.

MOBILE ORGAN RETRIEVAL CENTRE: A NEW HOPE FOR ORGAN FAILURE PATIENTS IN INDIA • Rtn Lai Goel

The Critical Challenge of Organ Donation in India

India faces a critical challenge in organ donation and transplantation. With only 15-16% of Revenue Districts having Organ Retrieval and Transplant Centres, millions of patients suffering from organ failure are left with limited hope. The disparity in medical infrastructure across the country has created a significant barrier to accessing lifesaving organ transplants, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.

Introducing Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres (MORC): A Transformative Solution

The proposed Mobile Organ Retrieval Centre (MORC) represents a groundbreaking approach to addressing the organ donation deficit. This innovative model aims to establish approximately 150 mobile centres strategically positioned nationwide, each designed to cover 3-4 Revenue Districts. The primary objective is to bridge the gap in organ retrieval infrastructure and create a more accessible, efficient organ donation ecosystem.

Key Features of Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres

1. Advanced Mobile Infrastructure

Each MORC will have an ultra-modern Operation Theatre specifically designed for organ retrieval procedures. The mobile units will be fully prepared with state-of-the-art medical equipment, ensuring that critical organ harvesting can be performed with the highest standards of medical precision and safety.

2. Strategic Positioning and Rapid Response

Leveraging India's expanding highway network, these mobile centres will be positioned to reach any location within their designated district cluster in a maximum of 3-4 hours. This rapid response capability is crucial in organ retrieval, where time is of the essence.

3. Comprehensive Medical Team Approach

The MORC model involves a collaborative approach between local hospital staff and specialised medical teams from nearby Organ Retrieval and Transplant Centres. Local medical and paramedical personnel will be trained to assist in organ harvesting procedures, working in conjunction with expert teams from specialised centres.

Implementing the MORC Framework

Institutional and Administrative Support

1. Brain-Dead Declaration Committee

Each Revenue District covered by a MORC will establish a dedicated Brain-Dead Declaration Committee. This committee plays a crucial role in identifying and officially declaring potential organ donors, ensuring a standardised and transparent process.

2. Administrative Coordination

Local administration will be actively engaged to create "green corridors" – dedicated, unobstructed routes that facilitate the rapid and safe transfer of retrieved organs to transplant centres. This coordination is vital to minimising transit time and preserving organ viability.

Economic and Infrastructure Considerations

The estimated cost of establishing each Mobile Organ Retrieval Centre is between 10-15 million Indian Rupees. While this may seem significant, the potential impact on saving lives and addressing the organ donation shortage makes it a worthwhile investment in healthcare infrastructure.

Potential Impact and Future Prospects

The MORC model has the potential to dramatically transform the organ donation landscape in India. By bringing advanced medical capabilities closer to underserved regions, it addresses several critical challenges:

- Reducing geographical barriers to organ retrieval
- Minimising time-critical challenges in organ transportation
- Providing standardised training to local medical personnel
- Creating a more equitable healthcare ecosystem

Conclusion

Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres represent more than just a medical innovation; they symbolise thousands of patients awaiting life-saving organ transplants. By reimagining organ retrieval infrastructure, India can take a significant step towards addressing the organ donation deficit and saving countless lives.

As the country continues to develop its medical infrastructure, the MORC model stands as a testament to innovative thinking in healthcare – bringing advanced medical capabilities to those who need them most, regardless of their geographical location.

Note: The implementation of Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres will require collaborative efforts from medical professionals, government bodies, healthcare administrators, and non-government organisations to ensure successful execution and maximum impact.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Braj Vibhuti Rotarian Lal Goel is a visionary leader and a driving force in Organ Donation advocacy. As Founder & Charter President of the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International and Chairman of the Organ Donation India Foundation & GYAN, he has been pivotal in raising awareness about Organ Donation across India. He serves on the National Committee for the National Campaign for Body-Organ Donation (NCBOD) and has been recognised globally for his efforts. He is the ex officio member of the Karnataka SOTTO advisory committee. He is the Advisor to the Organ and Blood Donation Committee (Rakt Veer) of Rotary District 3110.

His accolades include the Rajiv Gandhi Businessman of the Year Award, Tyag Murt Mata Ramai Ambedkar Samman, Icons of India Award, World Parliament International Award and the White Coat Ceremony honour by Donate Life, USA. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Mangalore University awarded him the distinguished title of 'One in a Million.



BRAINSTORMING SESSION ON THE ROLE OF ROTARY IN ORGAN DONATION



Mumbai, 31st August 2025 - Rtn Lal Goel, Founder and Charter President of the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International, and Chairman of both the Organ Donation India Foundation and GYAN, led a fruitful discussion with Rtn Sree Nandy, Secretary of Rotary International District 3141 for the 2026-27 term, and Inspire Secretary Rtn Ruby Agarwal.

The session focused on establishing organ donation as a core Rotary program nationwide, with the potential to save thousands of lives each year. Rtn Lal Goel highlighted the critical gap between the need for organ donations in India and the availability of organs, which is largely due to a lack of awareness and inadequate infrastructure—particularly in underserved communities where Rotary's network could make a transformative impact.

To address this gap, Rtn Lal Goel proposed the creation of specialised Interact and Rotaract clubs dedicated exclusively to organ donation. This initiative aims to engage the younger generation in driving long-term cultural change regarding the acceptance of organ donation.

Rtn Sree Nandy expressed strong support for this initiative and committed to promoting organ donation programs throughout RID 3141. She urged Rtn Lal Goel to submit a formal proposal so she could present it to the Rotary Leadership.

Rtn Ruby Agarwal suggested implementing systematic awareness meetings across all Rotary clubs to create a multiplier effect, potentially reaching thousands of community members through Rotary's well-established network. The session concluded with concrete commitments for the implementation and integration of organ donation awareness into regular Rotary programming.

Rtn Lal Goel thanked Rtn Sree Nandy and Rtn Ruby Agarwal for their participation in the brainstorming session held at the Hotel Radisson, Mumbai, on a Sunday morning. He also wished Rtn Sree Nandy all the best in her upcoming role as District Secretary.

ROTARY LEADERS UNVEIL COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO TRANSFORM ORGAN DONATION LANDSCAPE IN INDIA



New Delhi, September 3, 2025 - In a landmark meeting that could reshape India's approach to organ donation, senior Rotary leaders convened to address the nation's critical organ shortage crisis and chart an ambitious path forward.

Rtn Lal Goel, Zonal District Chair of Rotary District 3141 and Advisor to the Organ & Blood Donation Committee of Rotary District 3110, joined forces with Rtn Rajesh Mittal, Country Coordinator of the Rotary Action Group for Blood & Organ Donation, for intensive strategic discussions at JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi.

Addressing India's Organ Crisis

The leaders highlighted the stark reality facing India's healthcare system: thousands of patients await life-saving organ transplants while donation rates remain critically low. This gap between need and availability has reached crisis proportions, demanding immediate and coordinated action.

"Rotary's proven track record in tackling complex health challenges positions us uniquely to lead this transformation," the leaders emphasised during their deliberations.



Five-Point Action Plan Unveiled

The strategic session produced a comprehensive five-point initiative designed to revolutionise organ donation across India:

1. Formation of Specialised Coordination Committee

A dedicated team of committed Rotarians will be established to facilitate seamless collaboration with the Health Ministry, government departments, and key organisations, including NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation), ROTTO (Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation), and SOTTO (State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation).

2. Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres

The initiative will focus on persuading private healthcare institutions to establish Mobile Organ Retrieval Centres nationwide, dramatically improving the speed and efficiency of organ procurement.

3. Youth Engagement Through Rotary Family

Specialised Interact and Rotaract Clubs will be launched with exclusive focus on organ donation awareness and advocacy, ensuring the next generation becomes passionate advocates for this life-saving cause.

4. National Transplant Games Launch

A pioneering National Transplant Games program will be introduced to celebrate transplant recipients, raise awareness, and demonstrate the transformative power of organ donation.

5. Rotary International Global Initiative

The leaders will advocate for Rotary International to designate organ failure as a priority health crisis, drawing from the organisation's successful model in combating polio during the 1980s.

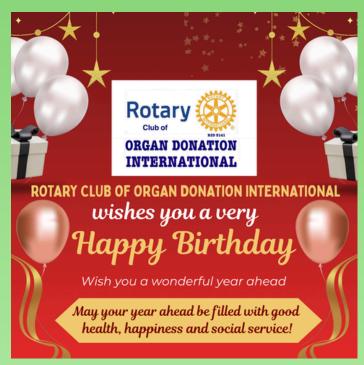
Looking Ahead

This strategic meeting marks the beginning of what promises to be Rotary's most ambitious healthcare initiative in recent years. The comprehensive approach addresses not only the immediate need for increased organ availability but also focuses on long-term systemic change through education, infrastructure development, and policy advocacy.

The initiative represents Rotary's continued commitment to "Service Above Self" and demonstrates how coordinated voluntary action can address society's most pressing challenges.

Birthday of Members in September

- Rtn Jigna Dipan Shah
 4th September
 (Mobile +19089225036)
- Rtn Dipan Rasiklal Shah 13th September (Mobile +19083422559)
- Rtn Dharampal Poddar
 17th September
 (Mobile +919821118929)
- Rtn Dipak Pandya
 19th September
 (Mobile +17323185359)



A Gift Beyond Measure



- Rtn Hemalatha Bhandari

To give a part of me to thee,
Eternity's gift, a Selfless deed,
A life renewed, a future bright,
Countless hearts now filled with light,
Healing hands, a final grace,
Embracing love, time and space.
Reaching out in one last breath,
Saving lives, defying death,
Donor's spirit, never gone,
A legacy that carries on,
Your Kindness lives, a new day's dawn!

HEALTHY FOOD -HEALTHY ORGANS

Healthy Pumpkin Soup



- Rtn PHF Ritika Gupta

A warm, wholesome, and comforting soup that's perfect for cozy evenings and a healthy treat for the whole family (kids love it too!).

Ingredients

- 300 g pumpkin (peeled & roughly chopped)
- 1 medium onion (roughly chopped)
- 4-5 garlic pods
- 1 tbsp oil (olive oil or any cooking oil of choice)
- 3 cups water
- Salt to taste
- Freshly ground black pepper (to finish)

Instructions

- 1. Sauté the base
- Heat oil in a pressure cooker.
- · Add garlic pods, onion, and pumpkin.
- Sauté on high flame for 5-7 minutes until lightly roasted.
- 2. Cook the vegetables
- Add 3 cups of water and salt to taste.
- Close the lid and cook for 3 whistles.
- 3. Blend into soup
- Allow the cooker to cool slightly.
- Transfer the mixture to a blender and pulse until smooth.
- 4. Strain & simmer
- Pass the blended soup through a sieve for a silky texture.
- Return to the pan, bring to a gentle boil.
- 5. Serve
- Season with freshly ground black pepper.
- Serve hot and enjoy!



[→] Tip: Pair it with some toasted bread for a filling meal, or serve as a warm evening bowl for kids and adults alike.



Rtn Pratul Agrawal
Club Young Leaders Contact

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Profession: Lawyer

Family: Spouse Vandana Agrawal and three

daughter's family

Favourite Food: Jalebi Kachori

Favourite Holiday Destination: London Favourite Book: Freedom at Midnight

Favourite Song: Zindagi Har Kadam ik Nai Jung Hai Favourite Quote: Our greatest glory is not in never

Falling, but in rising Every time we Fall

Date of Birth: 30.06.1966

Wedding Anniversary: 05.07.1988

Your presence on social media: Fb, Insta

Why did you choose to become a member of RC Organ Donation International? it's needed,

challenging and feel I could contribute



(Pledge your Organs to donate only after talking to your family members)