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The Government of Tamil Nadu has revamped the methodologies and issued revised orders, streamlining the procedures for "Cadaver Organ Transplantation", an attempt to give "life" a new lease after death. This programme was started in September 2008. A Cadaver maintenance unit has been set up at the Institute of Surgical Gastroenterology and Liver Transplant, Stanley Medical College and Hospital, Chennai and it has started functioning.

During the year 2008, 6 deceased donors, during 2009, 59 deceased donors and during 2010 (till 14.1.10), 3 deceased donors donated 136 kidneys, 52 livers, 15 heart, 2 lungs, 63 Heart valves, 95 corneas and 1 Skin. There were 10 Donors in December 2009 and half of them were from Government General Hospital.

The donor rate in certain foreign countries and India (per million population) is given below.

Spain: 32, U.S.A.: 21, Portugal: 17, Poland: 6, Thailand: 1 and India: 0.05.

The Donor rate in Tamil Nadu is 0.86 which is 17.2 times more than the national average. With the increasing organ donors, Tamil Nadu leads the country in organ donation and this could be possible because of the awareness created by this Government among the public for organ donation.

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V.K.Subburaj Principal Secretary

Health and Family Welfare Department