



# World Organ Donation Day

**Source: IE**

Recently, [World Organ Donation Day](#) was observed on 13th August 2024 to raise **awareness** about the **critical need** for organ donors and promote donor registration.

- **Theme for 2024: “Be the Reason for Someone’s Smile Today!”**
- **History of Organ Transplantation:** The first successful [kidney transplant](#) was performed in **1954** in the United States.
  - In **India**, the first successful **deceased donor heart transplant** took place on **3rd August 1994**.
- **Significance of Organ Donation:** The **United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)** reports that approximately **1,03,993 people** need life-saving organ transplants, but the number of available donors is significantly **inadequate**, creating a severe **supply-demand gap**.
  - As per UNOS, **every donor can save 8 lives and enhance over 75 more**.
  - UNOS is a **private, non-profit organization** that manages the nation's organ transplant system under contract with the central government.
- Initially, India celebrated **National Organ Donation Day** on **27th November** but it was shifted to **3rd August** to commemorate the anniversary of India’s first successful deceased donor heart transplant.
  - Organ donation in India is regulated by the [Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994](#).

**Read More:** [NOTTO Annual Report 2023-24](#)

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