GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2348 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2023

STUDY ON POST COVID COMPLICATIONS

2348. DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any report by the ICMR is published after undertaking studies on post Covid sequelae in Indian population;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is an estimate of the amount of Indian citizens suffering from long Covid like breathing issues, memory fog etc;
- (d) if so, the steps taken and schemes by Government to help those who are suffering;
- (e) whether there has been a study on the number of deaths due to post covid complications like heart attacks or heart inflammations, etc; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (f): Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has sanctioned studies on post COVID sequelae to explore the possibility of study of association of major complications and COVID-19 as part of the COVID registry.

According to ICMR, of the participants of the National Clinical Registry of COVID-19 who were followed for one year, it was observed that dyspnea, fatigue, and mental health issues were reported among 18.6% 10.5% and 9.3% of the 8042 participants at 1st follow-up of 30-60 days post-discharge, respectively which at 1-year follow up reduced to 11.9%, 6.6% and 9%, respectively in 2192 participants.

Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), an autonomous Institute under Department of Biotechnology, has revealed in their preliminary analysis of the data that approximately 2% of the participants have reported the development of new symptoms such as hypertension and diabetes.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued National Comprehensive Guidelines for Management of Post-Covid Sequelae. The guidelines provide detailed guidance on common presenting signs and symptoms, system wise complications, investigations required, other differential diagnosis and clinical treatment.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in collaboration with All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi (as Center of Excellence) and other State Level Centers of Excellence and in association with Indian Medical Association has organized a series of webinars for healthcare professionals engaged in public and private health facilities at State and District levels on COVID-19 clinical management related issues including management of post-COVID complications.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has established a COVID clinical registry across the country to capture clinical treatment and outcomes of COVID-19. This information is only limited to hospitalized patients. Post Covid studies have been taken up on various conditions like aortic and lung inflammation, mucormycosis etc. Although health is a State subject, Government of India has advised the States to establish post COVID clinics in their respective appropriate health facilities to cater to the needs of people suffering various post COVID conditions.
