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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2182 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH AUGUST, 2023

COST OF ASSISTED REPRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

SHRI A.D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the new Assisted Reproduction Technology (ART) Regulations 2023 imposes restrictions, limiting significantly the opportunities for ART couple to find suitable donors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether restricting the number of donation attempt under ART Regulations would increase the cost significantly and create challenges for couples relying on ART; and
- (d) if so, the manner with which Government intends to bring the ART within the affordable reach of common man?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

- (a) & (b): The Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 prescribe that (i) males between 21 years of age and 55 years of age, both inclusive, can donate semen (ii) females between 23 years of age and 35 years of age, can donate oocytes. (iii) A bank shall not supply the sperm or oocyte of a single donor to more than one commissioning couple (iv) An oocyte donor shall donate oocytes once in her life.
- (c) & (d): The oocyte donation has potential risks for the donor, including risk during ovarian stimulation, retrieval procedure under anaesthesia and hence, it is prudent to limit the number of times a donor can donate oocytes, to once. The objective of the Act is to ensure safe and ethical practice of assisted reproductive technology services.
