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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3395 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH AUGUST, 2017

SURROGACY

3395. SHRI SANGANNA AMARAPPA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is receiving a number of complaints regarding the commercial use of surrogacy in India from national and international patients, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the action taken report on these complaints during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to ban the commercial use of surrogacy in the country, to make it transparent, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intend to notify the guidelines wherein only blood relatives can become surrogate mothers for altruistic purposes, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to maintain the security and privacy of the foreigners coming to India for surrogacy in order to avoid fraudulent and illegal activities in this regard?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (c): Yes, a number of public grievances have been received against commercial surrogacy.

With a view to put a check and bring transparency in the use of surrogacy, the Government has recently introduced Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2016 in the Lok Sabha, which stands referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare.

- (d): As per clause (iii) b (II) of Section 4 contained in chapter 3 of the proposed Bill, no person other than a close relative of the intending couple shall act as a surrogate mother for altruistic purpose.
- (e): A letter No V.25011/119/2015-HR dated 04.11.2015, has been issued to all States/Union Territories with copy to the Ministry of External Affairs which, inter-alia, stipulates that no VISA should be issued by the Indian Missions/Posts to foreign nationals intending to visit India for commissioning Surrogacy.