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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1322 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JUNE, 2019

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS

1322. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

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

(a) whether it is true that there are 60 healthcare and allied professions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is no regulatory authority/council either at the State/UT or at the central level to regulate them, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government is aware that there are quacks even in healthcare and allied services in the country; and

(e) if so, the manner in which the Government is planning to address the said issue?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b): At present, the Government does not have any authentic estimates of allied professions, other than what is being reported by various associations/similar bodies. On the basis of available information, 53 Allied and Healthcare Professions under 15 recognized categories have been included in the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018, already introduced in Rajya Sabha.

(c): As on date, there is no Central regulatory body for allied health professions. However few States are reported to have statutory mechanism for regulation of allied and healthcare related professions (Paramedical Council or State Physiotherapy or Occupational Therapy Council etc.).

(d) & (e): The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 provides for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied & healthcare professionals besides maintenance of Central Register of such professionals, who lack a comprehensive regulatory mechanism.