

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4079  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**COVID DETECTION EQUIPMENT**

**4079. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to introduce breath test equipment to detect Covid infection;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): ICMR expert group, on evaluation of technologies for COVID-19 detection, evaluated one breath test equipment that claimed to detect SARS-CoV-2 the causative agent of COVID-19. The experts noted that neither real-life data on COVID-19 patients was available nor any comparison of the said device with gold standard diagnostic test RT-PCR was done. It was further observed that there is a risk of spread of infection through air blowing in a narrow tube.

\*\*\*\*\*