

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 393
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST JULY, 2023**

TREATMENT OF ASD AND CP

393. SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that successful treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Cerebral Palsy (CP) etc. is possible with stem cell based procedure and technology and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been framed/proposed to be framed in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Ethics and Medical registration board of National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued a recommendation that the use of stem cell therapy in treating patients with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is not recommended. ICMR Guidelines on Evidence Based Status of Stem Cell Therapy for Human Diseases -2021, based on the review of available scientific evidence also recommends that stem cell therapy should not be offered as a standard or routine therapy to patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The National Guidelines for Stem Cell Research-2017 of ICMR & DBT, provide guidance for the ethical and scientific conduct of stem cell research. The following link provides guidance to all stakeholders including scientists, clinicians and industry and can be accessed online at https://main.icmr.nic.in/sites/default/files/guidelines/Guidelines_for_stem_cell_research_2017.pdf).
