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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2079
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2023

CHALLEGES OF AI IN HEALTH SECTOR

2079   SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:
            SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

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

(a) whether the Government is cognizant that Artificial Intelligence (AI) has a wide range of applications in the healthcare sector, like diagnosis, preventive treatments, clinical decision-making and more;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to deploy and adopt AI-based technologies in Healthcare and Biomedical Research;

(c) whether the Government has done any analysis on the potential promises as well as challenges in the use of artificial intelligence in the health sector and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the ICMR has laid down certain guidelines for use of AI in the healthcare sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (e) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recently designated AIIMS Delhi, PGIMER Chandigarh and AIIMS Rishikesh as Centres of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence with an aim to promote creation and use of AI based solutions in Health.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Cell has been established at Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Headquarters to enhance AI-based technologies in Healthcare and Biomedical research. ICMR has developed Ethical guidelines for application of Artificial Intelligence in Biomedical Research and Healthcare. These guidelines are available at ICMR website at https://main.icmr.nic.in/sites/default/files/upload_documents/Ethical_Guidelines_AI_Healthcare_2023.pdf

In accordance with the Artificial Intelligence (AI) mission of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC), Department of Biotechnology (DBT) provides support in research on application of 'Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Affordable and Accessible Healthcare programme in the area of Cancer, Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Diseases, Diabetic & Cardiovascular Diseases, Ophthalmological Diseases, Neurological Disorders and Drug Development. In addition, Imaging BioBank for Cancer is supported to develop AI tools and database for advance research in Head Neck Cancer and Lung Cancer.

NITI Aayog has published two approach documents on AI for India, "Responsible AI" approach documents in February 2021 and "Operationalizing Principles for Responsible AI" in August 2021.

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