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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1846 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2019

ASSAULT ON DOCTORS

1846. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) whether the Indian Medical Association(IMA) has requested for a new stricter legislation to protect doctors and other medical professionals from assaults, while on duty, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry received a communication from the World Medical Association condemning the violence against doctors and sought stronger regulations, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government directed all State Governments for enacting specific laws to deal with such incidents till the drafting of such a law, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the status of the Prevention of Violence and Damage or Loss of Property Act that was submitted by the IMA to the Ministry in 2017;
- (e) whether a PIL has been admitted in Supreme Court in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any Bill has so far been drafted by the Government on the request of IMA, if so, the details of the Draft Bill and its provisions; and
- (g) whether feedback from public on the draft Bill has been sought, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a): Yes. IMA has requested the Government to enact a Central Law to check violence against healthcare professionals.
- (b): No such communication has been received.
- (c): No.
- (d) to (g): A draft bill was hosted on the website of the Ministry for seeking comments/suggestions from the public.

A Writ Petition (Civil) has been filed in the Supreme Court by Association of Healthcare Providers (India) (AHPI) Tamil Nadu Chapter & Anr. seeking intervention of the Hon'ble Court.