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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 931 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07TH FEBRUARY, 2020

ANIMAL USE IN LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS

931. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that an expert committee was constituted to look into the feasibility of entirely doing away with animal use in laboratory experiments, for training in post graduate medical education and switching over to non-animal based modules as suggested by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the expert committee has suggested against doing away with the animal use in laboratory experiments for training in post-graduate medical education, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the expert committee suggestions have been conveyed to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b): As informed by Medical Council of India (MCI), an Expert Group was constituted in 2016 to look into the feasibility of doing away with animal use in laboratory experiments for training in post graduate medical education. The Expert Group inter-alia recommended that animal experimentation should continue to be included as an integral part of the competency based curriculum of PG courses in Physiology and Pharmacology in medical colleges/institutes. The recommendation has been approved by the Government.
- (c) & (d): The recommendation of the Expert Group was duly conveyed by MCI to Department of Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture which is now the nodal Ministry handling the subject.

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