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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED Q. No 3191 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6th AUGUST 2021

MANDATORY RT-PCR TEST REPORT

3191. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government is aware that certain States/UTs have made RT-PCR report mandatory even after vaccination to enter their territory;
- b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- c) whether the Government is likely to make recommendations/issue directives to such States/UTs for exempting requirement of RT-PCR report for people who have been vaccinated; and
- d) if so, the details thereof;

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

(a) to (d)

Health is a State subject. Government of India has provided the required technical support and has also supported the states through logistic and financial support to further strengthen the existing health infrastructure to tackle COVID-19 pandemic.

Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also issued Guidelines for domestic travel (air/train/inter-state bus travel) on 24th May 2020 which does not recommend any COVID-19 testing of inter-state travelers. Certain States have, however, imposed requirement for mandatory RT-PCR testing for entering the State from time to time, based on the state specific trajectory of cases and spread of infection.

Department of Health Research through Indian Council of Medical Research has also already issued an advisory dated 4th May 2021 against use of / RTPCR test during inter-State travel (available at:

 $https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/strategy/Advisory_COVID_Testing_in_Second_Wave_0405~2021.pdf).$