GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4132 ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 28TH MARCH, 2022 [CHAITRA 7, 1944 (SAKA)]

COSTING OF COVAXIN AND COVISHIELD VACCINES

QUESTION

4132. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Competition Commission of India has the details of cost buildup of Covaxin and Covishield vaccine produced in India, so as to prevent these two monopoly producers from exorbitantly pricing and selling the vaccines in the current situation of medical emergency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has ensured that selling price does not have abnormal huge gap with the cost of production of Covaxin and Covishield and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has instructed the company to price the vaccine in consultation with the Government and ensured that the pattern of costing has not given advantage for business monopoly of these two companies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS.

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a)&(b): No, Sir. The Competition Commission of India ('Commission') has no details of cost build-up of Covaxin and Covishield vaccine produced in India.
- (c)to(e): The Commission issued an advisory on 19.04.2020 for guidance of corporates during Covid times which, inter-alia, cautioned the corporates not to take advantage of the pandemic to contravene any of the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002.
