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

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 769 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024

#### GENDER PREDICTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM

#### 769: DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN

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

- (a) Whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any action to regulate the posting of videos promoting gender prediction on social media platforms;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor?

# ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) to (c) The Government is taking following steps to regulate the posting of videos promoting gender prediction on social media platforms under the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act, 1994: -
  - Section 22 of the PC&PNDT Act, 1994 prohibits any advertisement promoting sex determination/ selection including on digital platforms and any contravention of the same is punishable with imprisonment up to 3 years and with fine up to 10,000 Rupees.
  - A Nodal Agency has been constituted in the Ministry which serves as a single point contact to receive the complaints and for taking appropriate action against the violations of Section 22 of PC&PNDT Act 1994.
  - In house experts have been appointed by various search engines to take necessary action against the violation of Section 22 of PC&PNDT Act 1994 regularly.
  - Public Notices for creating awareness on Nodal Agency have been issued in various newspapers, TV Channels and Radio calling upon the public to report on any violation under Section 22 of the PC& PNDT Act 1994 to the Nodal Agency so that appropriate action is taken.s

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