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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1074 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2015

RESEARCH ON SURROGACY

1074. SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE: SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT: SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN: SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:

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

- (a) whether any research/study on surrogacy was conducted by Jawahar Lal Nehru University, Delhi University and a foreign organisation;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to allow single woman irrespective of their marital status to become surrogate mothers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has received recommendations from National Commission for Women (NCW), Ministry of Law and Justice and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) concerning the regulation of surrogacy and Draft Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a)& (b): Yes. Recent studies of fertility clinics by researchers from Delhi University, Jawahar Lal Nehru University and Aarhus University, Denmark has made revelations about exploitation of surrogate mothers.
- (c): The draft Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill has been prepared by the Government which in under inter-ministerial consultation to address this issue.
- (d): Government has received recommendations from various Ministries/Departments including Ministry of Women & Child Development on Scope of Surrogacy, Rights of Surrogate Mothers and Children and regulation of clinical establishments providing surrogacy. Further, comments of the Ministry of Law & Justice mainly relate to procedural aspects relating to processing of the proposed enactment. Also, the Law Commission Report No. 228 of 2009 recommends that the need of the hour is to adopt a pragmatic approach by legalizing altruistic surrogacy arrangements and prohibit commercial ones in addition to setting up of surrogacy courts.