GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1192

TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021

AGENCIES INVOLVED IN CREATION OF AAROGYA SETU APP

1192 SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to State:

- (a) the details of all Government departments, agencies and Ministries that were involved in the conception and creation of the Aarogya Setu App;
- (b) the nodal Government department or agency which is responsible for its creation and operation;
- (c) whether the App was created with volunteers from 'Industry and Academia' as stated in the Ministry's press release on October 28, 2020; and
- (d) if so, whether volunteers underwent appropriate security and background verification and the details of the same, including Government departments involved in security and background verification and the time taken to conduct the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

- (a): The following Government Ministries/Departments, were involved in the the conception and creation of the Aarogya Setu App:
 - NITI Aayog
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - National Informatics Centre
 - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - Department of Telecommunications
- (b): National Informatics Centre under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is the nodal Government department or agency which is responsible for its creation and operation.
- (c) and (d): Yes, Madam. Aarogya Setu was incubated under NITI Aayog and all volunteers were onboarded during the pandemic period. The app has evolved with a collaborative development approach where the source code by the developers is submitted to a central repository and then checked and validated by the Government team, IIT Chennai as well as by the two lead Volunteers Mr. Vikalp Sahni and Mr. Rahul Goyal. The Government as part of its verification has signed a NDA with the volunteers and stored a copy of the passport. The final source code contributed by both Government, IIT Chennai and volunteers is checked and security audited before publishing it in the production environment.