

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.918
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020

918 SHRI BIKASH RANJAN:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes, instead of a medical board, an independent gynaecologist not regularly checking the pregnant person to be the final authority on abortion, as the constitution of medical board is near impossibility particularly at the base level of primary centre where ordinarily the pregnancy is taken care of medically;
- (b) whether the decision to abort remains with the person concerned and doctors may only give medical advice on the health of both foetus and the pregnant person; and
- (c) whether it will be more appropriate to replace the term “Pregnant woman” with the term “Pregnant Person”?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

- (a) : No such proposal is under consideration.
- (b) : MTP Act 1971, provides for opinion of Registered Medical Practitioner(s) to ensure the safety and well-being of the woman. It also provides for obtaining consent of the woman.
- (c) : No such proposal is under consideration.