

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2494
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH AUGUST, 2021**

**RESOLUTION PASSED IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

2494. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has signed the resolution passed on population control in the 'International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)' held in Cairo, Egypt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that married couples have been given the right to decide the number of children they want to give birth to and freedom to raise them in the said conference;
- (d) if so, whether the said proposal is against Indian interest in the Indian context; and
- (e) if so, the stand of Indian Government in above context as on date?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

a) & b) India is a signatory to the International Conference on Population and Development declaration (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994. The Programme of Action (PoA) of the ICPD articulated the interlinkages between population and sustainable development. At the core of ICPD PoA is the concept of voluntary informed choice related to family planning. Accordingly, it lays down actions for Governments in the field of Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health.

c) d) & e) The Government has been implementing the Family Planning programme in line with the objectives stated in various policy documents (National Population Policy 2000, National Health Mission 2005, and National Health Policy 2017) honoring also the international commitments of the Government of India (including International Conference on Population and Development, Sustainable Development Goals, Family Planning 2020).

The programme is based on voluntary and informed choice, ensuring the reproductive rights of couples to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, by recognizing that improved access, education and empowerment would be the basis of successful population stabilization.
