

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO QUESTION

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL): Sir, I lay a Statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1869 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th December, 2023 regarding 'India-Israel joint trial on COVID 19 patients'.

FAREWELL TO THE RETIRING MEMBERS – *Contd.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for letting me speak, as my term as an MP in Rajya Sabha comes to an end, today. It has been my singular privilege and honour to serve the people of Karnataka and the people of the country, as a representative in this Upper House. I must thank my leaders; hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi*ji*; hon. Home Minister, Amit Shah*ji*; Party President Nadda*ji*; and also my leaders in Karnataka, late Anant Kumar*ji*; Yediyurappa*ji*; and, of course, former Prime Minister Devegowda*ji* who initiated my entry into politics in 2006 and have supported me consistently. And, I am deeply grateful for all that support.

Sir, my career has spanned many, many different areas. I spent six years as a technology engineer, twelve years as telecom and technology entrepreneur, and for the last eighteen years, I have served to the best of my ability as a public servant, as a representative in this Upper House. In this House, I have served two terms as an independent MP, and one term as a BJP MP, eight years, in all, as an Opposition MP where I saw and was a witness to the last decade; and, ten years as a Treasury Bench MP, some of that time as a Minister where I have seen the dramatic transformation of our country over the last ten years.

I have had this singular privilege of being involved in initiating debates on the 2G scam, spectrum auction, NPAs, One-Rank-One-Pension, the known celebration of the Kargil War Victory, net utility, data protection, and many such topics in this House. And, I must thank all my colleagues in this House who have supported me all these years and have been steadfast in their support.