

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1049
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8th DECEMBER 2023

THE NATIONAL PHARMACY COMMISSION BILL, 2023

1049. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce the National Pharmacy Commission Bill, 2023 to replace the Pharmacy Act, 1948 and the existing Pharmacy Council of India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that the proposed Bill for setting up a National Pharmacy Commission aims to improve access to affordable and high-quality pharmacy education along with ensuring nationwide availability of pharmacy professionals and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said move seeks to promote equitable healthcare by making pharmacy services accessible to all citizens while ensuring periodic and transparent assessment of pharmacy institutions along with facilitating maintenance of a pharmacy register for India and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also true that the bill encourages professionals to integrate the latest research into their work, contribute to research and uphold high ethical standards and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has invited comments/suggestions from the public and other stakeholders on the above and if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the other steps being taken to reinvigorate pharmacy education and raise its standard in the country?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

- (a) to (e) Draft National Pharmacy Commission Bill, 2023 has been hosted in public domain for pre-legislative consultation.

(f) Pharmacy Council of India is the regulatory body of Pharmacy Education in the country. Following are some of the steps taken to re-invigorate pharmacy education and raise its standard in the country:

- i. The Bachelor Pharmacy Education Regulations, 2014 and Bachelor Pharmacy Practice Regulations, 2014 were notified to define the duration, minimum qualification and other specifications of the course.
- ii. The Pharmacy Practice Regulations, 2015 were notified to define the scope and practice of Pharmacy Profession.
- iii. Diploma in Pharmacy Exit Examination Regulations, 2022 were notified on 24 February 2022.
- iv. The Ministry, vide gazette notification dated 24-11-2023, has authorized Pharmacy Council of India to use Aadhar authentication services for taking biometric attendance of faculty and the students.
