

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
COMMITTEE ON FUNCTIONING OF AIIMS
Mollah Shri Hannan;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether AIIMS is losing its credibility due to alleged interference in its autonomy;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has set up a three member committee to look into the functioning of AIIMS and prescribe a remedy; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the committee has been asked to submit its report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 45 FOR 26TH JULY, 2006

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), is an autonomous institution constituted by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Act, 1956. The Institute was established with the objective of developing standards of teaching in undergraduate/postgraduate medical education so as to demonstrate high standard of medical education through all other institutions in the country. In order to achieve this objective, the Institute is engaged in Medical Education, Research and patient care services.

The Institute enjoys complete academic autonomy and there has been no interference in the functioning of AIIMS. However, the Institute is required to exercise due diligence in administrative and financial management of the Institute as AIIMS is provided budgetary support of the order of Rs.500 Crores (2006-07) from Consolidated Fund of India. For this purpose, Institute Body/Governing Body and President of Institute were required to exercise the power as entrusted to it through statute. Such actions will not amount to infringement of autonomy of the Institute.

To further look into the functioning of AIIMS the Government has recently constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr.M.S.Valiathan, former Director of Sri Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Thiruvananthapuram. The other members of the Committee are Secretary (Health & Family Welfare), Dr.M.K.Bhan, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology and Dr.R.K.Srivastava, Director General of Health Services.

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:

1. To examine the extent to which the purpose and objectives for which AIIMS has been established, have been achieved.
2. To make recommendations for developing AIIMS from an institution of national importance into a Centre of Excellence and a leader in the area of public health for the entire country.
3. To make recommendations to empower and position AIIMS to make full use of emerging global opportunities.
4. To make recommendations for enhancing and strengthening the autonomy of AIIMS in order to enable it to fulfill its stated objectives.
5. To make recommendations on the efficient utilization of manpower resources with respect to attracting the best talent, retention of faculty, provision of better opportunities for utilizing the talent available and optimization of scientific/technical/non-technical manpower.
6. To examine the issues of critical infrastructural gaps and to suggest way and means of bridging such gaps.
7. To recommend measures to deepen and expand the existing research base in the Institute.
8. To suggest any structural changes and amendments to the Act, Rules and Regulations that may be necessary to achieve the above objectives.

The Committee would submit its report in a period of three months.

There has been no interference in the affairs of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, and the study on the functioning of AIIMS is only aimed to enhance and strengthen the AIIMS and to ensure that it fulfills its stated objectives.