

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1448  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011  
VIOLATION OF CODE OF ETHICS  
Kataria Shri Lal Chand;Singh Shri Uday Pratap

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

- (a) whether the Medical Council of India/the Government has drawn Code of Ethics for medical professionals/doctors in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the mechanism set up to ensure its proper compliance;
- (c) whether the MCI has recently recommended action against a number of doctors for the violation of the said code and negligence in treatment of patients;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the total number of complaints received, action recommended and punishment awarded thereon during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether any delay has been observed in awarding punishment to the accused doctors by State Medical Councils; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government in the matter?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) Yes. The Medical Council of India (MCI) had notified Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, which are statutory and binding in character and are to be followed by all medical professionals/ doctors in the country. These regulations empower the MCI and respective State Medical Councils to award punishment against any act in violation of Code of Ethics.

(c) & (d): The Medical Council of India (MCI) informed that during the last three years it has recommended action against doctors for violation of the Code of Ethics and negligence in treatment of patients as per details below:

S.No.	Year	No. of complaints received	No. of doctors awarded punishment
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1.	2008	499	13
2.	2009	684	06
3.	2010	904	18

(e) & (f) Imposition of punishment under the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 is time consuming process. Role of the Central Government under these Regulations is limited to that of an Appellate Authority.