

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:143
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY CUM ENTRANCE TEST
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Anandan Shri K.Murugesan

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

- (a) whether the Medical Council of India (MCI) has proposed to conduct all India common entrance test viz. National Eligibility- cum- Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to Under Graduate and Post Graduate Courses in medical colleges across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the main highlights of the proposed test;
- (c) whether there has been opposition from different quarters on the various issues including exclusion of regional languages as medium for conduct of NEET;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to address the apprehensions and concerns of all stakeholders in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 143 FOR 23RD MARCH, 2012

(a) &(b) Yes, Madam. The Medical Council of India (MCI) has notified common entrance test viz. National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) medical courses in the country from 2013-14 onwards with the due approval of the Central Government. Once implemented, the NEET would be applicable to all medical colleges which come under the ambit of MCI, including private medical colleges.

(c) to (e) A few State Governments had expressed concerns about the proposed NEET particularly with regard to the syllabus for the NEET for UG, reservation of seats, medium of examination, as well as their own preparedness to introduce the scheme from the academic year 2012-13 and whether once introduced some of their seats would go unfilled because of high merit. In order to address these concerns, Government has taken the following measures:

- i. The Government has decided to implement NEET from the next academic year i.e. 2013-14 instead of 2012-13.
- ii. It has been clarified to the states that their existing reservation policies would not be disturbed under the proposed scheme and state wise eligibility merit lists will be prepared for the respective state authorities to admit students for admission in accordance with their admission criteria in the institutions located in the respective states.
- iii. MCI has revised the syllabus for NEET-UG, based on the inputs from stakeholders.
- iv. The qualifying criterion has been changed from percentage of absolute marks to percentile to ensure that no seat remains unfilled.
- v. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the National Board of Examination (NBE) are designated agencies for conducting NEET -UG and NEET-PG respectively. A Coordination Committee, with all relevant stakeholders as members, will address any issue relating to the admission process, including regional language as medium for conduct of NEET.