

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:366

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2012

NURSING COURSES

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

- (a) the criteria and procedure laid down by the Indian Nursing Council (INC) for granting approval to introduce new courses in the nursing colleges across the country;
- (b) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the instances where permission to certain nursing colleges to introduce new courses was refused despite approval of the State Education Department;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to streamline the process in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) The criteria and procedure as laid down by Indian Nursing Council (INC) available on their official website www.indiannursingcouncil.org is as follows: The School/College of Nursing desiring to open new nursing course are first required to obtain a No Objection Certificate/Essentiality Certificate from the concerned State governments; thereafter the concerned institutions are to apply to the INC in the proforma prescribed indicating therein the teaching, clinical and infrastructural facilities available in the institution after receipt of the complete proposal the council conducts inspections through independent inspectors appointed under the provisions of section 13 of INC Act, 1947. The report of the independent inspector is placed before the Executive Committee of the INC which after evaluating the inspection report decides as to whether the institution has to be granted suitability/recognition or not.

(b)& (c): Proposal of certain colleges were not accepted due to the fact that:

(i) The institutes have submitted the proposal along with essentiality certificate after the due date of submission of application. As on 8th June, 2012, there were 48 such institutes in 14 states.

(ii) In some cases where proposals of the institutions were accepted by INC for further processing, it was found after inspection that the institutes were not having physical, clinical and teaching facilities as per INC norms and hence were not permitted. The same was communicated along with deficiency to the institute/ State Government / Council / board /University. However, institution can apply within three months for re-inspection.

(d) (i) Indian Nursing Council (INC) has exempted the need of essentiality certificate from the State Government for those institutions which have atleast one nursing programme approved by the INC. However, High Court of Rajasthan in one of the cases ordered that essentiality certificate is required for opening additional courses. Accordingly, INC has stipulated that for opening additional programme of nursing essentiality certificate need to be obtained from the State Government.

(ii) Wide publicity is given through National Daily newspaper of calendar of events and is also placed on the website.

(iii) Instructions are issued to the State Government/State Nursing Councils and Universities about the calendar of events.

(iv) Efforts are made that the decisions of the Executive Committee of INC with regard to recognition of Schools/Colleges of Nursing are displayed on the same day to avoid any speculation.