

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:330

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2009

LEGISLATION ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

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

- (a) whether the amendments made in the Medical Council of India (MCI) Regulations, to improve the quality of medical education in the country have been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a comprehensive legislation, encompassing the various related aspects, including setting up of Medical Grants Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 330 FOR 11TH DECEMBER, 2009

To improve the quality of medical education, focus has been given to upgrading the skills of medical teachers, increase in post graduate courses/seats,revision of curriculum, introduction of new medical courses and revision of the norms of infrastructure etc. While these amendments have taken effect, the actual implementation is expected to commence from the next academic session. Some of the important amendments made in the MCI Regulations are as under:-

- i) The ratio of post graduate medical teacher to the student has been relaxed from 1:1 to 1:2.
- ii) Research publications in indexed/National Journals have been made compulsory for promotion to the post of Professor/Associate Professor.
- iii) Permitted colleges which are not yet fully recognized are allowed to offer postgraduate courses in the subjects of preclinical and paraclinical Departments of Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Microbiology, forensic Medicine & Community Medicine without waiting for full recognition.
- iv) The teaching experience required for the post of Professor/Associate Professor has been reduced by one year in the respective feeder cadres.
- v) Emergency Medicine has been incorporated in the medical curriculum so that the medical students are trained to tackle medical emergencies.
- vi) Basic management skills in the area of human resources, materials and resource management related to health care delivery, General and hospital management, principal inventory skills and counseling have been included in the curriculum.
- vii) A village attachment of atleast one week to understand issues of community health alongwith exposure to village health centres, ASHA, Sub Centres have also been included in the curriculum.
- viii) The requirement of infrastructure like institution block, library, auditorium, examination hall, lecture theatres, etc. has been rationalized for optimal use, and
- ix) Laboratories in different departments have been pooled to have common laboratories which can be used by all the departments for better utilization of the equipment and space and to reduce capital expenditure,

2. In addition, to facilitate expansion of medical education to the unserved and underserved areas of the country, amendments have been made in the Medical Council of India (MCI) Regulations, some of which are as follows:-

- (a) For opening of new medical colleges, land requirements have been rationalized across the country and they have been further

liberalized in the case of notified tribal areas, underserved/unserved areas and hill areas. In respect of these areas, land need not be unitary piece but can be in two pieces of land,

(b) In respect of North-East and Hill States, the requirement of bed strength in the teaching hospital has been liberalized, and

(c) Staff and infrastructural requirements have also been rationalized etc.

3. The President of India in her address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 4th June, 2009, announced the Government's intention to set up a National Council of Human Resources in Health (NCHRH) as an overarching regulatory body for health sector to reform the current framework and enhance supply of skilled personnel. Consequently, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Union Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) was constituted to deliberate upon the issue of setting up of the proposed National Council. The Task Force submitted its report on 31st July, 2009. The report alongwith the draft bill for creation of NCHRH has been sent to the State Governments seeking their views and posted on the Ministry's website for inviting comments from the general public. It is envisaged that the proposed National Council, when constituted, will deal with various needs of medical education in the country.