

12.20 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SETTING UP  
OF MEDICAL EDUCATION  
REVIEW COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : Sir, there has been large-scale expansion of facilities for medical education in the country at under-graduate and post-graduate levels during the past three decades. This development has enabled the country to augment the health services. However, despite this achievement, certain distortions have crept into the medical education system making it inadequately responsive to the health needs and priorities of the country. On more than one occasion, the prime Minister has emphasised how important it is that the medical education system should be reviewed so that it harmonises wholly with the over-riding objective of health care besides ensuring that the needs of the many prevail over those of the few.

A review of the present medical education system has become necessary in the context of the national commitment to attain the goal of "Health for All by the year 2000 A.D." through the universal provision of Primary Health Care. In this context, the resurgence of some of the tropical diseases, the predominantly hospital based rather than community oriented education, the need for preparing medical personnel to respond effectively to the health problems in the rural areas, the imbalance in the proportion of general practitioners to post-graduates and the entire process of medical education at under graduate and post-graduate levels, including the goals, instructional methods and evaluation procedures, necessitates an urgent and careful review.

With this objective in view, I have decided to establish a Medical Education Review Committee. The Committee will :

- (i) review the current admission procedures (including entrance tests) and domiciliary restrictions for admissions to under-graduate and post-graduate courses and make suitable recommendations separately, in regard thereto ;
- (ii) suggest measures aimed at bringing about overall improvement in under-graduate and post-graduate medical education, paying due attention to :
  - (a) institutional goals ;
  - (b) content relevance and quality of teaching and training and learning settings ; and
  - (c) evaluation systems and standards ;
- (iii) recommend the optimum duration of under-graduate and post-graduate courses of study, separately ;
- (iv) examine the existing Internship programme and recommend its future pattern ;
- (v) review the working of the Residency scheme along with the Housemanship programme and make recommendations regarding a uniform pattern of post-graduate training ;
- (vi) examine the current requirement of Thesis or Dissertation as an essential part of postgraduate medical education and make suitable recommendations in regard thereto ; and
- (vii) examine the feasibility of a period of service in the rural areas for medical graduates and post-graduates.

The Committee will also evolve realistic projections of medical manpower requirements (MBBS doctors, general specialists and super-specialists) during the Sixth Five Year

[Shri B. Shankaranand]

Plan and beyond, taking into consideration;

- (a) the needs of Government based health care programmes;
- (b) the requirement of doctors in the private sector ;
- (c) the needs arising from bi-lateral agreements, international commitments and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries ; and
- (d) necessity to redress regional imbalances in the distribution of a medical manpower.

In formulating its recommendations , the Committee may keep in view the reports made in recent years by the various Committee and Conferences on Medical Education.

The Committee shall submit its report within six months.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: (Bombay North East) : I am on a point of order. Under Rule 353, no allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person. I draw your attention to Mr. Rakesh who is bringing to your notice a news item in the 'Sunday Statesman'

MR. SPEAKER : Have you given notice of its ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I want to point out to you that if he has brought this matter before you, you are obliged under Rule 356 to call for comments from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : No. Without my permission nothing can be said.

PROF. SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : You have given the ruling that there

has been no breach of privilege. The Finance Minister ..

MR. SPEAKER : That is finished.

PROF. SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : Then why is it that the newspapers which gave all these things ..

MR. SPEAKER ; Not allowed. Irrelevant.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER ; Mr. Rawat. Why are you going into all these things Why can not you allow him to make a speech ?

(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब मैं कहां कहां देखता हूँ । . . व्यवधान . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बहुत हो गया, अब तो हाउस का काम चलने दीजिए ।

12.25 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED COMPLAINTS AGAINST POSTAL EMPLOYEES FOR MALPRACTICES RE. MONEY ORDERS

SHRI HARISH CHANDRA SINGH RAWAT (Almora) :

I call the attention of the Minister of Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

Re : the reported complaints against postal employees regarding nonreceipt of payment, misappropriation, short payment and delayed payment of money order amounts and action taken by Government in the matter.

व्यवधान