

(d) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) and (b) The Government as well as private sector can open new Schools and Colleges of Nursing in accordance with the norms prescribed by the Indian Nursing Council (INC) for running basic and degree nursing courses in the country. However, there is no provision in the INC Act to recognize the foreign institutions to run such courses.

(c) and (d) The INC has received 1470 proposals for setting up of nursing schools/colleges during the last three years and the current year. Year-wise break-up is as under:-

2007-08	173
2008-09	406
2009-10	451
2010-11	440
TOTAL	1470

The inspection of these institutions was conducted. 716 schools and 664 colleges of Nursing were found eligible and given permission to run the courses.

Exit test for medical graduates

856. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from Government to introduce an exit test for medical graduates after getting the degree;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Medical Council of India (MCI) has been consulted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Central Government had constituted a Task Force to recommend for creation of an over-arching regulatory body in inter related fields of medicine viz. National Commission for Human Resources for Health (NCHRH). The Task Force, after consultations with the stakeholders including Medical Council of India, in its report has suggested an exit test for medical graduates to improve the standards of medical education in the country.

Discrepancy in reported data of malarial deaths

857. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: