

Common admission test for medical degree courses

2243. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the common admission test for medical degree courses proposed to be conducted by Medical Council of India will cover the admission to the private, self-financing medical colleges including those run by minority institutions and to the medical colleges run by the deemed universities;

(b) if not, whether Government intends to bring any legislation to bring them also under the common admission test;

(c) whether Government is aware that many of the private, self-financing professional colleges in the country are being run without adequate facilities and qualified faculty and are adopting non transparent admission methods without observing merit; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government against these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Simran Jain case, has accepted the proposal of the Medical Council of India (MCI) to conduct 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 and directed the Council to take such steps as are necessary to implement the NEET. Once implemented, the NEET would be applicable to all medical colleges which come under the ambit of MCI, including private medical colleges.

(c) and (d) MCI carries out inspection of medical colleges under various provisions of Indian Medical Council Act for establishment of new medical colleges, recognition of medical qualifications as well as for continuation of recognition. In case, during the inspection, it is found that a medical college is deficient on any count as required under provisions of the Act, the MCI recommends withdrawal of recognition in respect of that medical college to the Central Government. Recently, MCI has not recommended withdrawal of recognition of any medical college.

BHELs concerns over availability of cheaper Chinese funds

2244. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) has raised concerns over the availability of cheaper Chinese funds for power projects;

(b) if so, what will be its impact on the State-run company's business; and

(c) the steps Government will take to safeguard the interests of Indian manufacturers?