

Norms for permission for opening of medical colleges

862. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in granting permissions to open allopathic, ayurvedic, homeopathic and other medical colleges, there are any guidelines for minimum bed, minimum qualified doctors etc.;

(b) whether implementation of these guidelines are based on any practical thinking; and

(c) whether more pragmatic, mature and practical thinking is solicited on the part of Government in deciding these parameters to minimise unnecessary expenditure in hospitals?

THE THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. The permission to open a medical college is based on guidelines for minimum bed, minimum number of qualified doctors etc.

(b) The norms for setting up of a medical college are prepared by the concerned professional councils, after due deliberations and consultations and notified thereafter with the approval of the Central Government.

(c) In so far as medical colleges teaching modern medicine is concerned, the Medical Council of India, with the prior approval of the Government, has relaxed a number of norms to facilitate setting up of more medical colleges, particularly in the backward and remote areas of the country. These revised norms *inter-alia* include the following:

- (i) Land requirement relaxed from 25 acres to 20 acres throughout the country.
- (ii) Land requirement relaxed from 20 acres to 10 acres based on permissible FAR/FSI in the Metropolitan and "A" Grade cities viz. Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Greater Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Surat, Pune, Bangalore and Kanpur.
- (iii) Permission given to set up medical colleges in two pieces of land in the States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for a period of 5 years with

certain provisions. Further, this has been extended to other States for utilisation of District hospitals by the respective State Governments.

- (iv) In hilly areas, notified tribal areas, North Eastern States, Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep, the land can be in two pieces at a distance of not more than 10 km.
- (v) Bed occupancy has been relaxed in North Eastern States and Hill States.
- (vi) Requirement of infrastructure like institution block, library, auditorium, examination hall, lecture theatres, etc. has been rationalized for optimal use.
- (vii) Companies registered under the Companies Act have also been allowed to establish medical colleges.
- (viii) The ceiling on age limit for appointment of medical faculty has been raised from 65 to 70 years.
- (ix) DNB qualification has been recognized for appointment as faculty to take care of shortage of faculty.
- (x) The ratio of teachers to students has been revised depending on disciplines and availability of faculty.
- (xi) Postgraduate and Graduate medical degrees of five English speaking countries (US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) have been recognized for practice in India.

Diseases caused by contaminated water

863. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the rising number of cases of diseases and deaths attributable to intake of contaminated water in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and