

The National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to MBBS and Postgraduate Medical Courses for the academic year 2013-14 was conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education and National Board of Examinations respectively. However, a few private Medical Colleges and the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu filed writ petitions in the respective High Courts seeking exemption from NEET. These petitions were transferred to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide*, its judgement dated 18.07.2013 in NEET related cases quashed the implementation of NEET. The Central Government has filed a petition before the Hon'ble Supreme Court to review its decision.

Research on clinical care and preventive mechanisms of diabetes

3642. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated number of Indians who suffer from diabetes today;
- (b) whether Government plans to research the problem of diabetes and provide solutions for clinical care and prevention mechanisms;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) According to report published by International Diabetes Federation (IDF) (the 6th edition of IDF Atlas published in November, 2013) the number of diabetic patients is about 65 million in the country. The data available from the Indian Council of Medical Research, India Diabetes (INDIAB) Study estimates the number to be 62.4 million approximately .

(b) to (d) The Indian Council of Medical Research has completed the phase-I of ICMR Task Force project entitled, "ICMR-India Diabetes [INDIAB] Study-Phase-I," with the aim to (i) determine the national prevalence of type 2 diabetes mellitus and pre-diabetes in India, by estimating the State-wise prevalence of the same and (ii) compare the prevalence of type 2 diabetes and pre-diabetes in urban and rural areas across India. In the phase I of the study, the rural and urban settings in three States and one union territory *viz.*, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Chandigarh have been included.

Further, the Indian Council of Medical Research initiated a multi-centric Task Force project titled "Registry-of people with Diabetes in India with Young age at onset background". All cases of diabetes in the age groups of '25 years or less with fasting plasma glucose >126 mg/dl and/or 2 hr post load plasma glucose >200mg/dl, referred/men-referred, treated/untreated residing within the assigned geographical area are included who reported after January 1st, 2000. Phase I of the study has been completed. The registry has enrolled 5546 young diabetic patients.

Indian Council of Medical Research has also supported 15 projects to develop indigenous glucometers and glucose testing strips at affordable cost in the country. Among them, the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai and Birla Institute of Technology Science, Pilani (Hyderabad Campus), have developed 2 indigenous devices and testing strips for estimation of blood glucose.

Complaints against conduct of CGHS doctor

3643. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a doctor against whom sexual harassment charges have been levelled earlier and his behaviour is not upto the mark as per requirement of administrative angle, has been working in CGHS Ayurvedic dispensary, Janakpuri-I on contract basis;

(b) whether Government proposes to terminate his services immediately in view of these facts;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) whether Government is aware that the said doctor threatens his in-charge and staff by putting pressure in the name of his connection with the higher authorities;

(e) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this matter; and

(f) the outcome thereof along with the reasons for not terminating his services?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (f) A complaint from a beneficiary regarding indecent behaviour has been received against a contractual Ayurveda doctor under CGHS, Delhi.

An enquiry has been conducted. On the basis of the enquiry report and his performance, instructions have been issued to terminate his contract with immediate effect.

Collaboration with BRICS countries in health sector

3644. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to collaborate in bilateral and multilateral initiatives on 'Health Sector' with BRICS countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) Governments of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) have developed an institutional mechanism for cooperation in the form of BRICS forum. Cooperation between BRICS countries in Health sector is being coordinated through