

Cancellation of medical college permits

1898. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to increase the establishment of medical colleges in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a row over cancellation of permits of some medical colleges by MCI, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to defend its stand on increasing the medical colleges and cancellation of permits by MCI?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Medical colleges can be set up by a State Government/UT, any University, autonomous body promoted by Central/State Government, a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, public religious or charitable trust and Companies (not for profit) registered under Company Act.

To augment human resources/facilities in health sector, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for establishment of New Medical Colleges by upgrading district/referral hospitals has been introduced with focus on underserved areas of the country. Under the scheme, 58 districts in 20 States/UTs have been identified.

(b) and (c) As per IMC Act, 1956 and Regulations framed thereunder, the Medical Colleges have to get yearly renewal permission till the first batch of students appear in final year examination and the MBBS course is recognized. For this purpose, the MCI conducts yearly renewal inspection of the colleges and recommends to the Central Government to renew/not to renew the permission. Before taking a final decision on the negative recommendations of MCI, the Ministry grants opportunity of personal hearing to the colleges. Thus, an opportunity is provided to ascertain whether deficiencies as noted by MCI in its physical assessment of the concerned college have been rectified. MCI accordingly makes revised recommendation to the Ministry. It is not open to the Central Government to issue permission to the medical colleges when they are not complying with the regulations of the MCI.

There has been consistent increase in the number of medical colleges and MBBS seats in the country. In the year 2007-08, there were 262 medical colleges with intake capacity of 31,232 MBBS seats which has increased to 422 medical colleges and 57,138 MBBS seats in 2015-16.