

Mandatory approval of AICTE for B. Pharma/D. Pharma courses

†2993. SHRI GOPAL NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for mandatory approval of AICTE, operated by the Ministry for the accreditation of the course of B. Pharma and D. Pharma conducted under Pharmacy Act despite the fact that Pharmacy Council of India functions under the aegis of the same Ministry;

(b) the justification for continuing with the necessity of approval from a technical institute such as AICTE for 'B.' Pharma and 'D.' Pharma courses; and

(c) whether Government would consider to end this interference of AICTE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) The Pharmacy Act, 1948 is a specific Act to regulate the profession of pharmacy under Section 3 of the Pharmacy Act, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is constituted with a mandate to prescribe the minimum standard of education required for qualification as a pharmacist to practice the profession of pharmacy.

AICTE Act, 1987 empowers AICTE to regulate technical education in India and technical education as per clause 2(g) of AICTE Act includes programme of Pharma education.

(c) The issue has been discussed and in the meantime, AICTE and PCI have taken a decision to closely work together in granting approval to pharma institutions for pharma courses.

Procurement of medical equipments for Dr. RML hospital, New Delhi

2994. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government without ensuring readiness of infrastructure went ahead and procured various medical equipments worth ₹ 15.93 crore for Emergency Care Centre in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any serious punitive action against those who are responsible for this;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.