

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2077

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005

STANDARD OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an expert committee appointed by the Apex Court has stated that some States are attempting to dilute high standards in medical education and hospital facilities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) the number of litigations pending as on date challenging the decisions of the Medical Council of India (MCI) relating to recognition, increase in the number of seats and introduction of new courses in medical colleges and hospitals; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure strict compliance of MCI norms in medical education?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b): Hon`ble Supreme Court of India vide its Order dated 20.11.2002 appointed an Ad-hoc Committee of experts to assist the Medical Council of India (MCI). The Committee in its report submitted to the Court made some recommendations on the working of the Council which inter-alia observed that the Universities and State Governments need to be sensitized towards the issue of enforcement of the minimum norm and standard prescribed by the Council. The Court had directed the Central Government to file its reply in the matter. The matter is, therefore, subjudice.

(c): As per information furnished by MCI, 265 cases are pending in various Courts in India in which the prayer is against MCI.

(d): The permission to establish a Medical College, increase in intake capacity or for starting the higher course of study is granted only after the MCI verifies the availability of infrastructure and faculty through inspection. The MCI also conducts periodic inspection of recognized colleges to ensure maintenance of standard and cases of colleges which are not adhering to the minimum standard are processed as per the provisions of Section 19 of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.