

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding situation arising out of proposed National Medical Commission Bill.

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Medical education is at the core of access to quality healthcare in any country. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment dated 2nd May, 2016 had directed the Government to consider and take appropriate action on the recommendations of the Rai Choudhary Committee. Accordingly, it was proposed to introduce the National Medical Commission Bill with certain amendments to the draft bill.

Government doctors in the country, Tamilnadu in particular are opposing certain clauses in the proposed bill and showed their opposition through protest against the National Medical Commission Bill.

The Government has incorporated the spirit of the Standing Committee report on Medical Council of India, but there are far too "many problematic" provisions in the proposed bill which "go against" the committee report.

The Indian Medical Association is against the provision that allows alternative medicine practitioners to take up modern medicine after attending a short course and feels that the Bridge course provision in the National Medical Commission Bill will 'sanction quackery'. This provision is totally unacceptable as it will lead to an army of half-baked doctors in the country. Almost 2.7 lakh Indian doctors had protested across the country and are against this provision of the Bill.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to desist from including such problematic provisions in the National Medical Commission Bill.

