THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

By

DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI, M.P.

A

BILL

further to amend the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (Amendment) Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force with immediate effect.
2. In Section 2 of the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), after clause (l), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

“(la) ‘mixopathy’ means to integrate or attempt to integrate or any such other related activity to integrate, the different kinds of alternative medical systems including, but, not limited to Ayurveda, Homoeopathy and Unani with modern medical sciences.

3. In Section 10 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (i), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:–

“(ia) prohibit the practice of mixopathy by the medical practitioners.”.

4. In section 26 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (i), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:–

“(j) prohibit the practise of mixopathy by the medical practitioners.”.

5. In section 55 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after clause (zq), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:–

“Provided that, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Commission shall not make any regulations which allows or promotes the practice of mixopathy by the medical practitioners.”.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Several recent developments show that there is an increasing effort to integrate various medicine systems in the country. The Central Council of Indian Medicine, through a notification, amended the Indian Medicine Central Council (Post Graduate Ayurveda Education) Regulation, 2016. The amendments allowed MS (Ayurveda) Shalya Tantra and MS (Ayurveda) Shalakya Tantra to perform surgery independently. The notification provides a list of thirty-nine such procedures of surgery. Further, NITI Aayog has also formed four committees to integrate all systems of medicine. These committees are in medical education clinical practice, public health, medical research and administration.

Such a policy shift is an attempt to mix the knowledge, procedures and techniques of modern Medical Sciences with traditional Ayurveda and other alternative systems. This integration of alternative medical systems such as Ayurveda and Homoeopathy with modern medical sciences has been termed as Mixopathy.

This retrograde step of unscientific mixing of systems of medicine will only produce hybrid doctors, not specialised in any medical system. With the amendments, all traditional systems and the modern system will lose their identity and further development. The present system offers the patient a choice to choose either modern medicine or any other alternative system of medicine. However, the new policy of integrative medicine would effectively nullify this choice as well. The Government should rather provide support to alternative medical systems to develop their own surgical procedures as per their ancient texts and relevant sources.

Thus, there arises a need to amend the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 to prohibit the practice of mixopathy and the integration of different systems of medicine.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI; 7 July, 2022.

SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI
ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE ACT, 2020

(Act No. 14 of 2020)

Definitions.

2. (1) “Member” means a Member of the Commission referred to in section 4 and includes the Chairperson thereof;

Power and functions of Commission.

10. (1) The Commission shall perform the following functions, namely:—

(i) frame guidelines for determination of fees and all other charges in respect of fifty per cent. of seats in private medical institutions and deemed to be Universities which are governed under the provisions of this Act;

Powers and functions of Autonomous Boards.

26. (1) The Board of Ayurveda, in respect of the discipline of Ayurveda, and the Board of Unani, Siddha and Sowa-Rigpa, in respect of the disciplines of Unani, Siddha and Sowa-Rigpa, of the Indian System of Medicine, shall perform the following functions in respect of their respective disciplines, namely:—

(i) grant recognition to medical qualifications at all levels.

Power to make regulations.

55. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(zq) the manner in which the Commission shall list and maintain the medical qualifications which have been granted recognition before the date of commencement of this Act, under sub-section (d) of section 36.
A BILL

further to amend the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020.

(Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singari, M.P.)