

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1557
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1/1/2018

AFFILIATION OF IIPH TO SCTIMST

1557. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) is a university empowered to grant affiliation to private institutions;
- (b) whether IIPH, New Delhi is a Government or private institute and if Government, under which Ministry;
- (c) whether SCTIMST has granted affiliation to IIPH to conduct its Master of Public Health and Ph.D. courses;
- (d) what are the feeder disciplines like science, social science, etc. graduates of which are allowed to apply to this course; and
- (e) whether these degrees are approved by MCI?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, an institution of National Importance, was incorporated under the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Act 1980 (Act No.52 of 1980).

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 31 of the above Act, Central Government made Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Rules, 1981.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 32(2) of the Act, Central Government made Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Regulations, 1981.

Section 12 (c), 13 (g), 23 and 24 of the Act have empowered the Institute to award degrees and Regulation 12 read with Item number (xii), (xxxii) and (xxxiv) of Para III of Schedule I of the Regulations empower the Governing Body of the Institute to co-operate or collaborate or associate with universities or institutions in such manner and for such purposes as the Institute may determine.

In exercise of the above mentioned provisions in the Act/ Rules/ Regulations, SCTIMST have affiliated various academic courses of both private and public institutions since the year 2000.

SCTIMST approved affiliation of Master of Applied Epidemiology course of National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE) for the first time in the year 2000 and Master of Public Health (MPH) programme in 2007. Christian Medical College (Vellore), a 100% private institution, was affiliated for MS (Bioengineering) and Ph.D.(Bioengineering) in the year 2006, Ph.D. Health Sciences in 2007 and Master of Public Health in 2008. Following these, IIPH, New Delhi, a unit of Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), a Public Private Initiative, was granted affiliation for Master of Public Health and their eligible faculty members have been recognized as guides for Ph.D.(Public Health) programme.

No distinction between private or public institutions has been foreseen by the Act/ Rules/ Regulations of the Institute while granting affiliation to their academic courses.

(b) The Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), New Delhi is not a government institution. It is a unit of Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). PHFI was set up in 2006 as a Public Private Initiative to promote Public Health in India. Some very senior functionaries of the Government of India are among the members of the Governing Body of Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in ex officio capacity.

(c) SCTIMST has given affiliation to IIPH, New Delhi for their Master of Public Health programme. SCTIMST has also recognised eligible faculty members of IIPH, New Delhi as guides in the area of Health Sciences (Public Health) who can admit students under their supervision for the Ph.D.(Public Health) programme.

(d) As on date, the feeder disciplines include: medical graduates (MBBS), dental graduates (BDS), graduates of ayurvedic medicine, homeopathy and siddha, and graduates of four-year degree programs in veterinary/nursing sciences, Bachelor of Physiotherapy, Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Bachelor of Pharmacy, engineering graduates, or students with postgraduate degree in Statistics/Biostatistics, Demography, Population Studies, Nutrition, Sociology, Economics, Psychology, Anthropology, Social Work, Management or Law.

(e) The following Sections of The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Act 1980 (Act No.52 of 1980) make provisions for the granting of medical degrees and recognition of the same under Indian Medical Council Act, 1956:

Section 23 - Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the Institute shall have power to grant medical degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions and titles under this Act.

Section 24 - Notwithstanding anything contained in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, the medical degrees and diplomas granted by the Institute under this Act shall be recognized medical qualifications for the purpose of that Act and shall be deemed to be included in the First Schedule to that Act.

As per Notification F.No. DR-III(4)/5/2010/ No.DST/AI/Admn./1-35/2011/SCT dated 20th December 2011, Master of Public Health is to be treated as a medical degree when awarded to persons holding recognised medical qualifications under the Medical Council of India Act, 1956 and shall be deemed to be included in the First Schedule to that Act.

For all other students, it is treated as a post-graduate degree.
