GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1889 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2023

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL DENTAL COMMISSION ACT

1889. SHRI VAIKO:

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

- (a) the status and steps taken for implementation of National Dental Commission Act;
- (b) when Dental Council of India is replaced by National Dental Commission, why the powers are still exercised by Dental Council of India;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to expeditiously investigate corruption charges, by way of giving recognition to Dental colleges, periodic inspections etc., against the officer bearers of Dental Council of India, including its President; and
- (d) the details of measures proposed to bring transparency in the functioning of National Dental Commission and its activities?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d) The National Dental Commission Act, 2023 has been notified on 11th August, 2023 with aim to regulate the profession of dentistry in the country, to provide for quality and affordable dental education, to make accessible high quality oral healthcare and related matters. The repealing of the Dentists Act, 1948 is consequent upon the orders issued by the Central Government as per provision of section 58(1) of the National Dental Commission Act, 2023.

The Central Government takes action on the complaints relating to alleged corruptions by the officials of Dental Council of India (DCI) as per Central Vigilance Commission guidelines.

The major activities of the National Dental Commission includes:-

i. To lay down policies and regulate standards for the governance of dental education, examination and training and make necessary regulations;

- ii. To regulate dental institutions, dental researches, dentists and dental auxiliaries and make necessary regulations;
- iii. To lay down policies and codes to ensure observance of professional ethics in dental profession and to promote ethical conduct during the provision of care by dentists;
- iv. To ensure that all admissions to undergraduate dental course shall be through National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test;
- v. To promote adoption of additional degrees or diplomas, higher qualifications, including certification courses and development of soft skills for advancement of career of the dentists and dental auxiliaries;
- vi. To assess the requirements in dental healthcare, including human resources for dental health, career progression of dentists and dental auxiliaries and healthcare infrastructure and develop a road map for meeting such requirements;
- vii. To promote, coordinate and frame guidelines and lay down policies by making necessary regulations for the proper functioning of the Commission, the Autonomous Boards, the Dental Advisory Council, the State Dental Councils and the Joint Dental Councils;
- viii. To ensure coordination among the Autonomous Boards;
- ix. To take such measures, as may be necessary, to ensure compliance by the State Dental Councils of the guidelines framed and regulations made under this Act for their effective functioning.
- x. To exercise appellate jurisdiction with respect to the decisions of the Autonomous Boards.
