

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH MARCH, 2026**

DELAYS IN NMC/MARB REGULATORY DECISIONS ON PG SEAT APPROVAL

2056 DR. M. THAMBIDURAI:

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

- (a) whether delays in National Medical Commission (NMC) / Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) regulatory decisions regarding PG seat approvals have caused uncertainty for students participating in NEET-PG counselling during the current academic year;
- (b) whether the Ministry has issued any directions to NMC to publish appeal outcomes and seat approvals before commencement of counselling;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps the Ministry proposes to ensure that such delays do not adversely affect students in the future?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): The National Medical Commission (NMC) is an apex statutory body constituted by an Act of Parliament to regulate and oversee medical education across the country.

The NMC through the Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB), processes application from medical colleges for starting new postgraduate (PG) courses and for increase of seats in existing PG Courses in accordance with the provisions of the NMC Act, 2019 and the regulations framed thereunder.

The MARB determines the appropriate method of assessment and/or inspection, before granting permission to the applicant to establish a medical institution viz. verification of documents in digital or any other form, Aadhar-based attendance register, verification of live video feed, photographs, Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) data, or a surprise physical assessment/video conferencing and other online modes etc.

Applications for the establishment of new medical colleges and for increasing the number of undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) seats are evaluated within the same academic year (AY) for which they are submitted. The government has increased number of Medical Colleges, Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) seats. The number of Medical Colleges have increased from 387 to 818; UG seats from 51,348 to 1,28,976 and PG seats from 31,185 to 85,020 from 2014 to as on date.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare regularly engages with the NMC to ensure the timely processing of applications and appeals related to PG medical seats, so that the approved seat matrix is available before the commencement of counselling. The NMC takes all necessary steps to streamline the timelines for processing applications and disposing of appeals, and to ensure that the outcomes are placed on its website in a timely manner.
