GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 137 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2017

DEMAND TO PRESCRIBE ALLOPATHIC MEDICINES

137. SHRI RAOSAHEB DANVE PATIL:

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that AYUSH doctors from across the country held a rally in Delhi to press for their demands under the banner of National Integrated Medical Association (NIMA) and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the AYUSH doctors demanded the right to prescribe allopathy medicines in that rally;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any steps have been taken/are proposed to be taken in this regard keeping in view the acute shortage of doctors in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a) to (c): Yes. A representation was also received from National Integrated Medical Association (NIMA) to press for their demands. In this representation, they have demanded the following:-
- 1. Right of Indian System of Medicine (ISM) doctors to practice their respective system of medicines along with Modern scientific system of medicine known as Allopathy.
- 2. To make suitable changes in the proposed National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCISM) Bill, 2017 or retain the present IMCC Act, 1970.
- 3. To provide employment opportunity for ISM doctors in various Government sector.
- 4. To provide equal status to ISM and MBBS graduate in Government services.

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- 5. To extend Dynamic Assured Career Progression (DACP) as implemented in Central Government to all State Health Department.
- 6. To maintain Minimum Standard Regulation (MSR) for ISM education at par with MBBS.
- 7. To raise the salary of teaching faculties of private Ayurvedic College as per the existing norms of University Grant Commission (UGC).
- 8. Reduction of Goods & Services Tax (GST) in Ayurvedic and Unani Drugs.
- 9. To amend various Central Acts in order to facilitate the practice of ISM doctors.
- 10. To make provision for reimbursement of treatment of ISM as well as Allopathy medicine given by ISM doctors as per Health Insurance Policy.
- 11. To make ample financial provision for ISM fraternity.
- (d) & (e): Section 15 of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 prohibits persons other than a medical practitioner enrolled on a State Medical Register to practice medicine in any State.

As per Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 under clause 1.1.3, no person other than a doctor having qualification recognised by Medical Council of India and registered with Medical Council of India/State Medical Council(s) is allowed to practice Modern system of Medicine or Surgery. A person obtaining qualification in any other system of Medicine is not allowed to practice Modern system of Medicine in any form.

The matter regarding allowing limited clinical practice to non-allopathic doctors for allopathic stream has been examined with Medical Council of India and Indian Medical Association and other stakeholders. MCI is of the firm view that any such suggestions would be detrimental to the cause of practicing of 'modern medicine'. The Indian Medical Association has also opposed the practicing of 'modern medicine' by AYUSH doctors.