

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.836
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2017**

SCTIMST

836. **SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:**

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** *विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) decided to award MPH degree to a course and examination conducted by a private institution IIPH Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether the decision has been taken on the basis of amendment in regulations and recommendations by the institute body;
- (c) whether the Government entrusted the governing body of SCTIMST to take such decision and enter into MoU with PHFI for issuing Degrees of SCTIMST for the courses conducted by PHFI;
- (d) if so, the copies of the orders and details thereof;
- (e) whether the governing body of the SCTIMST is competent to reduce the basic qualification/the medical qualification fixed for admission to Master of Public Health in to the qualifications other than medical qualification without recommendation of institute body, Government and amendment of regulations; and
- (f) if so, the details and copies of the orders?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDHARY)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(श्री वाई. एस. चौधरी)

- (a) Yes, Madam. SCTIMST had given affiliation to Master of Public Health (MPH) degree of National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai, (a Government of India institution under the Indian Council of Medical Research), Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore (a 100% Private Institution) and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) (a Public Private Partnership) for their campus at Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Delhi.
- (b) The decision to affiliate the MPH Programme has been taken as per the provisions of the Act and Regulations. As the Governing Body of the Institute was empowered to give affiliation to academic courses, the recommendation of Institute Body was not taken.
- (c) & (d): Yes Madam. The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, Act 1980, read with the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Regulations 1981, provides powers to the Governing Body in the matter. Section 12 (c), 13 (g), 23, 24 of the Act and Regulation (xii), (xxxi) and (xxxiv) of Schedule I empowers the Governing Body in the matter.
- (e) & (f): In this case, the Governing Body has not reduced the basic qualifications. Basic qualifications prescribed for MPH programme, since its inception in 1997, included medical and non-medical degrees and continue to be so as on date.

The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Regulations 1981, was amended in 2011, vide Gazette Notification F.No.-DR III(4)/ 5/2010/No.DSTAI Admn/1-35/2011/SCT dated 22.12.2011 with the approval of Governing Body and Institute Body and prior approval of the Central Government, to add 21 medical/ non-medical degrees/ diplomas /certificates and academic distinctions, in Schedule IV of the said Regulations.

In the amendment notification itself, it is explicitly mentioned that “in accordance with Section 24 of the SCTIMST Act, 1980, the degree courses 6-13 above are to be treated as medical degrees awarded to those persons holding recognized medical qualifications under the Medical Council of India Act, 1956 (102 of 1956) and shall be deemed to be included in the First Schedule to that Act”.

Thus, the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree issued by SCTIMST will be considered as medical degree only for those having medical qualifications under the Medical Council of India Act, 1956 and a Master’s degree for others.
